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SERVICE and PRAYERS For CHURCH and HOME

Edited and Compiled by
WILBUR PATTERSON THIRKIELD
Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church

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TO MARY

"THRICE BLEST WHOSE LIVES ARE
FAITHFUL PRAYERS."

SERVICE AND PRAYERS FOR CHURCH AND HOME

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PREFACE

THIS volume is designed as a book of prayers suitable for personal use, for the family altar, for the inspiration and guidance of the ministry in common worship, and for use in the religious instruction of youth and children.

These prayers, gathered from ancient and modern sources, should bring the heart of the devout reader into the prayer mood and cultivate the atmosphere of prayer in personal and family life. Not to read a prayer but to *be* a prayer is the chief thing. Thus the Psalmist: "My soul is silence, waiting all hushed for God," as Luther translates. Prayer is the secret of a holy life. It should lead into the joy of the Lord and reveal the secrets of his presence. Prayers such as these not only cultivate the language of prayer but set the heart a-hungering for God. The essential of a book of devotion is not to let it pray for us, but to "push the soul off into the sea of God"; to bring one into the practice of the presence of God.

The Wesley Sunday Service is included for its historical interest as well as its value as a book of devotion. It reveals the fact that our Ritual roots back into the liturgy of the early church. The text used is that edited by Professor Harrower. In making this adaptation from the Book of Common Prayer of the Church of England, Mr. Wesley wrote: "I believe there is no liturgy in the world either in ancient or modern languages which breathes more of solid Scriptural piety." Its occasional use may tend to enrich our form of worship.

Happily while the Methodist Episcopal Church has instituted a stated Order of Public Worship, yet it has ever encouraged the exercise of free prayer. Too often ministers, neglecting to acquire the spirit and gift of prayer, have offended devout and sensitive

souls "by mean, irregular or extravagant effusions." If in our worship we would "adorn the gospel of God our Saviour in all things," cultivate the spirit of reverence and promote piety, devout study must be given to the acquirement of noble, clear, and uplifting expression in prayer.

In this book are offered not only ancient and venerable forms of prayer such as have survived the usage of centuries, but also prayers which voice the needs and desires of worshipers in the living church of to-day with its multiplied forms of service.

While scores of books have added their treasures during many years of study and communion, the compiler would acknowledge with gratitude permission to make use of copyright material in the devotional books by Mrs. Mary W. Tileston, Little, Brown & Co.; A Book of Offices and Prayers for Priest and People, Edwin S. Gorham; A Chain of Prayers Across the Ages, by Selina F. Fox, E. P. Dutton & Co.,—especially helpful in verifying the origin and fixing the dates of many prayers; A Book of Family Worship and The Book of Common Worship, Presbyterian Board of Publication, which are of exceptional value, as books of devotion, and from which, with the gracious permission of the Board, most helpful material has been drawn. He would also thank the Vir Publishing Company for permission to use two modern prayers from God's Minute; E. P. Dutton & Co., for the use of several prayers from W. E. Orchard's The Temple; Dodd, Mead & Co., for two prayers from Dr. McComb's A Book of Prayers; The Missionary Education Movement, for prayers from Thy Kingdom Come, by Ralph E. Diffendorfer; Charles Scribner's Sons, for several prayers by Robert Louis Stevenson; and the Pilgrim Press, for the use of three prayers from Rauschenbusch's Prayers for the Social Awakening.

WILBUR PATTERSON THIRKIELD.

PRAYERS ANCIENT AND MODERN

A Morning Prayer

FROM the night our spirit awaketh unto thee, O God, for thy precepts are a light unto us. Teach us, O God, thy righteousness, thy commandments, and thy judgments. Enlighten the eyes of our mind, that we sleep not in sins unto death. Drive away all darkness from our hearts. Vouchsafe us the Sun of Righteousness. Guard our life from all reproach by the seal of thy Holy Spirit. Guide our steps into the way of peace. Grant us to behold the dawn and the day with joyfulness, that we may send up to thee our prayers at eventide. —*Daybreak Office of Eastern Church.*

For Cheerfulness

O GOD, who hast folded back the mantle of the night to clothe us in the golden glory of the day, chase from our hearts all gloomy thoughts, and make us glad with the brightness of hope, that we may effectively aspire to unwon virtues, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —*An Ancient Collect, A. D. 590.*

To Meet the Tasks of the Day

FATHER, I thank thee for thy mercies which are new every morning. For the gift of sleep; for health and strength; for the vision of another day with its fresh opportunities of work and service; for all these and more than these, I thank thee. Before looking on the face of men I would look on thee, who art the health of my countenance and my God. Not without thy guidance would I go forth to meet the duties and tasks of the day. Strengthen me so that in all my work I may be faithful; amid trials, cour-

ageous; in suffering, patient; under disappointment, full of hope in thee. Grant this for thy goodness' sake. Amen.

—*Samuel McComb.*

"Lord, Remember Me"

O LORD, thou knowest how busy we must be this day; if we forget thee, do not thou forget us; for Christ's sake. Amen.

—*General Lord Astley, A. D. 1579, before the Battle of Edgehill.*

For a Day without Stumbling and without Stain

GRANT us, O Lord, to pass this day in gladness and peace, without stumbling and without stain; that, reaching the eventide victorious over all temptation, we may praise thee, the eternal God, who art blessed, and dost govern all things, world without end. Amen.

—*Mozarabic, before A. D. 700.*

Thanksgiving

WE give thee hearty thanks for the rest of the past night and for the gift of a new day, with its opportunities of pleasing thee. Grant that we may so pass its hours in the perfect freedom of thy service, that at eventide we may again give thanks unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Daybreak Office of the Eastern Church.*

Prayer for the Day

THE day returns and brings us the petty round of irritating concerns and duties. Help us to play the man, help us to perform them with laughter and kind faces; let cheerfulness abound with industry. Give us to go blithely on our business all this day, bring us to our resting beds weary and content and undishonored; and grant us in the end the gift of sleep. Amen.

—*Robert Louis Stevenson.*

O LORD, my God, what is thy will for me to-day? What task hast thou for me? What opportunity hast thou placed in my way? Open mine eyes that I

may discover thy will! Save me from wasting the new day! May I turn it into eternal profit!

—*Dr. J. H. Jowett.*

For Spiritual Light

ALMIGHTY GOD, in whom is no darkness at all, grant us thy light perpetually, and when we cannot see the way before us, may we continue to put our trust in thee, that so being guided and guarded, we may be kept from falling this day, and finally, by thy mercy, enter into our rest; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Evening Prayer

IN the evening and morning and noonday we praise thee, we thank thee, and pray thee, Master of all, to direct our prayers as incense before thee. Let not our hearts turn away to words or thoughts of wickedness, but keep us from all things that might hurt us; for to thee, O Lord, our eyes look up, and our hope is in thee: confound us not, O our God; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Eastern Church Vespers, Third Century.*

For Thine Angels' Charge

WATCH thou, dear Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep to-night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend thy sick ones, O Lord Christ. Rest thy weary ones. Bless thy dying ones. Soothe thy suffering ones. Pity thine afflicted ones. Shield thy joyous ones. And all, for thy Love's sake. Amen. —*Saint Augustine, A. D. 354.*

For Forgiveness

BEFORE we go to rest we would commit ourselves to God's care through Christ, beseeching him to forgive us for all our sins of this day past, and to keep alive his grace in our hearts, and to cleanse us from all sin, pride, harshness, and selfishness, and give us the spirit of meekness, humility, firmness, and love.

O Lord, keep thyself present to us ever, and perfect thy strength in our weakness. Take us and ours under thy blessed care this night and evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Dr. Arnold, A. D. 1795.*

For "The Brightness of Thy Presence"

MOST gracious God, to know and love whose will is righteousness, enlighten our souls with the brightness of thy presence, that we may both know thy will and be enabled to perform it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —*Roman Breviary, A. D. 1099.*

For Grace to Follow Thee

O LORD, our Guide even unto death, grant us, I pray thee, grace to follow thee whithersoever thou goest. In little daily duties to which thou callest us, bow down our wills to simple obedience, patience under pain or provocation, strict truthfulness of word and manner, humility, kindness: in great acts of duty or perfection if thou shouldest call us to them, uplift us to self-sacrifice, heroic courage, laying down of life for thy truth's sake or for a brother. Amen.

—*Christina G. Rossetti.*

For Light to Follow Thee

DIRECT our steps this day, O Lord, into the way of peace, and strengthen our hearts to obey thy commandments; may the Dayspring visit us from on high, and give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, that they may adore thee for thy mercy, follow thee for thy truth, desire thee for thy sweetness, who art the blessed Lord God of Israel, both now and evermore. Amen.

—*An Ancient Collect, A. D. 440.*

For Cleanness of Heart and Courage

GIVE us, O Lord, purity of lips, clean and innocent hearts, and rectitude of action; give us humility, patience, self-control, prudence, justice, and courage;

give us the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and strength, the spirit of knowledge and godliness, and of thy fear; make us ever to seek thy face with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind; grant us to have a contrite and humbled heart in thy presence, to prefer nothing to thy love. Have mercy upon us, we humbly beseech thee; through Jesus our Lord. Amen. *—Gallican Sacramentary, A. D. 742.*

For Holy Reverence

HOLY GOD, teach me this day how to worship! May my soul be upon its knees! May I discern thy presence, and be filled with holy reverence and fear! Teach me to pray! *—Dr. J. H. Jowett.*

For Thee Above All Creatures

GRANT me, O most loving Lord, to rest in thee above all creatures, above all health and beauty, above all glory and honor, above all power and dignity, above all knowledge and subtilty, above all riches and art, above all fame and praise, above all sweetness and comfort, above all hope and promise, above all gifts and favors that thou canst give and impart to us, above all jubilee that the mind of man can receive and feel; finally, above angels and archangels, and above all the heavenly host, above all things visible and invisible, and above all that thou art not, O my God. It is too small and unsatisfying, whatsoever thou bestowest on me apart from thee, or revealest to me, or promisest, whilst thou art not seen, and not fully obtained. For surely my heart cannot truly rest, nor be entirely contented, unless it rest in thee. Amen. *—Thomas à Kempis.*

For Light and Love

LET thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, and the brightness of thy Spirit illumine our inward souls, that he may kindle our cold hearts, and light up our dark minds; who abideth evermore with thee in thy glory. Amen. *—Mozarabic, before A. D. 700.*

Litany

GLORY be to thee, O Lord, glory to thee.
Glory to thee who givest me sleep
to recruit my weakness,
and to remit the toils
of this fretful flesh.
To this day and all days
a perfect, holy, peaceful, healthy, sinless course,
vouchsafe, O Lord.

The Angel of peace, a faithful guide,
guardian of souls and bodies,
to encamp around me,
and ever to prompt what is salutary,
vouchsafe, O Lord.

Pardon and remission
of all sins and of all offenses
vouchsafe, O Lord.

To our souls what is good and convenient,
and peace to the world,
vouchsafe, O Lord.

Repentance and strictness
for the residue of our life,
and health and peace to the end,
vouchsafe, O Lord.

Whatever is true, whatever is honest,
whatever just, whatever pure,
whatever lovely, whatever of good report,
if there be any virtue, if any praise,
such thoughts, such deeds,
vouchsafe, O Lord.

A Christian close,
without sin, without shame,
and, should it please thee, without pain,
and a good answer
at the dreadful and fearful judgment-seat
of Jesus Christ our Lord,
vouchsafe, O Lord.

—*Bishop Andrewes's Devotions, 1555.*

For "a Perfect Heart"

GIVE unto us, O Lord, we humbly beseech thee, a wise, a sober, a patient, an understanding, a devout, a religious, a courageous heart; a soul full of devotion to do thee service, strength against all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Archbishop Laud, A. D. 1573.*

For Divine Help and Protection

O THOU that art our Helper, the Mighty One, thou that respecteth not the persons of men, be thou the help of all thy people, whom thou hast purchased with the precious blood of Christ. Thou art our Fortress and Defender, and none can pluck us out of thy hand. There is none other God like unto thee; in thee is our trust. Sanctify us through thy truth, thy word is truth. Preserve us and all thy people from all injury and deceit, from the fear of the enemy, from the arrow that flieth by day, and the mischief that walketh in darkness, and vouchsafe unto us the eternal life which is in Christ thy Son, our Lord and Saviour. Amen. —*Liturgy of the Greek Church.*

O LORD Jesus Christ, sinless Son of man who art evermore ready to succor them that are tempted; grant unto us, thy servants, both valor and constancy, that we may keep undefiled our own purity, fight manfully against the corruption that is in the world, and shield and rescue those that are in peril and sore beset. These things we ask of the love of the Father and the power of the Holy Ghost in thy name, who with them, livest and reignest, one God, world without end. Amen.

The Call to the Holy Spirit

BLESSED Holy Spirit, we thank thee for thy light on the hills. Daylight is come to us when thou art come. We need not walk in darkness any more. The Holy Ghost is come to bring the high truths of Christ to our remembrance. The Light is here: we

may no longer walk in darkness. We must not. Thou knowest how our candle burns so dimly and fails before the wild winds' blowing. Give us thy steady light of the stars. May it shine all night long from evening to morning, and give way only to the sun. Make it light on our path, that we stumble not. Make it light on our work-bench, so that we do not fumble our task. Make it light on God's Book, so that we may miss no syllable of the holy reading. Make it light in our prayer room, so that when we look we may clearly see God's face, and be greatly helped. Make it light in our house of prayer, so that we shall omit no note in the choral of a redeemed gladness. Make it light in our home, so we shall see the sudden tear and kiss it away from the cheek, and the lines of care on the face and smooth them out with a loving hand. Make it light in the house of death, so we shall have plenty of light to see by that we do not stumble, but, without a misstep, go straight toward the leaning face and get the waiting kiss from him. Amen.

—*Bishop Quayle.*

That We Fall into no Sin

O LORD, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day, defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings, being ordered by thy governance, may be righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —*Gelasian Sacramentary, A. D. 494.*

For the Gladness of Perfect Love

ETERNAL God, lead us into the blessedness of the mystery of communion with thee. Bow our spirits in deepest reverence before thee, yet uplift us into a sense of kinship. Send the spirit of thy Son into our hearts, crying "Abba, Father," that all unworthy fear may be banished by the gladness of thy perfect love. Thy love is like the luminous heaven, receiving only to purify the foulest breath of earth. Thy gentle-

ness is like the sun, seeking to cheer and warm the chilled hearts of men. Touch us, O our Father, with a feeling of thy great realities, for though our thought about thee is better than our words, our experience of thee is better than our thought. —*Samuel McComb.*

For Repose in Thee

O THOU good Omnipotent, who so carest for every one of us, as if thou caredst for him alone; and so for all, as if all were but one! Blessed is the man who loveth thee, and his friend in thee, and his enemy for thee. I behold how some things pass away that others may replace them, but thou dost never depart. O God, my Father, supremely good, Beauty of all things beautiful, to thee will I intrust whatsoever I have received from thee, and so shall I lose nothing. Thou madest me for thyself, and my heart is restless until it repose in thee. Amen.

—*Saint Augustine (354–430).*

HOW precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God!
How great is the sum of them!
If I should count them, they are more in number than the sand:
When I awake, I am still with thee. . . .
Search me, O God, and know my heart:
Try me, and know my thoughts;
And see if there be any wicked way in me,
And lead me in the way everlasting.

—*Psalm 139. 17, 18, 23, 24.*

Intercession

ALMIGHTY GOD, we beseech thee to hear our prayers for all who sin against thee, or neglect to serve thee, all who forget thee, all who leave thee out of their lives. O Lord, have mercy upon them; bestow upon us all true repentance and an earnest longing for thyself. Vouchsafe, we beseech thee, O Lord, to strengthen and confirm all thy faithful people,

and to lift up the light of thy face upon them, giving them continually heavenly desires; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*From an Ancient Collect, A. D. 440.*

For Union with God

O LORD our God, grant us grace to desire thee with our whole heart, that so desiring, we may seek and find thee; and so finding thee we may love thee; and loving thee we may hate those sins from which thou hast redeemed us; for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

—*Saint Anselm, A. D. 1033.*

Intercessions

MAY God the Father, and the Eternal High Priest Jesus Christ, build us up in faith and truth and love, and grant to us our portion among the saints with all those who believe on our Lord Jesus Christ. We pray for all saints, for kings and rulers, for the enemies of the cross of Christ, and for ourselves we pray that our fruit may abound and we may be made perfect in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

—*Bishop Polycarp, A.D. 85.*

WE beseech thee, O Lord, remember all for good; have mercy upon all, O God. Remember every soul who, being in any affliction, trouble, or agony, stands in need of thy mercy and help, all who are in necessity, or distress, all who love or hate us. Thou, O Lord, art the Helper of the helpless, the Hope of the hopeless, the Saviour of them who are tossed with tempests, the Haven of them who sail; be thou All to all. The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us; prosper thou the work of our hands upon us, O prosper thou our handiwork! Lord, be thou within us, to strengthen us; without us, to keep us; above us, to protect us; beneath us, to uphold us; before us, to direct us; behind us, to keep us from straying; round about us, to defend us. Blessed be thou, O Lord our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

—*Bishop Lancelot Andrewes, A. D. 1555.*

For Morning Hearts and Faces

WE beseech thee, Lord, to behold us with favor. Be patient still; suffer us a while longer to endure, and (if it may be) help us to do better. Bless to us our extraordinary mercies. Be with our friends; be with ourselves. Go with each of us to rest; if any awake, temper to them the dark hours of watching; and when the day returns to us, call us up with morning faces, and with morning hearts—eager to labor—eager to be happy, if happiness should be our portion—and if the day be *marked* for sorrow—strong to endure it. —*Robert Louis Stevenson.*

Preparation for Christ's Appearing

HELP us, O Lord, always to wait for thee, to wish for thee, and to watch for thee, that at thy coming again thou mayest find us ready; for thy sake we ask it. Amen. —*An Ancient Collect, A. D. 440.*

For Fullness of Grace

USE me then, my Saviour, for whatever purpose, and in whatever way, thou mayest require. Here is my poor heart, an empty vessel; fill it with thy grace. Here is my sinful and troubled soul; quicken it and refresh it with thy love. Take my heart for thine abode; my mouth to spread abroad the glory of thy name; my love and all my powers, for the advancement of thy believing people; and never suffer the steadfastness and confidence of my faith to abate—that so at all times I may be enabled from the heart to say, "Jesus needs me, and I him." —*D. L. Moody.*

For Cleansing and Deliverance from Sin

ALMIGHTY and merciful God, the Fountain of all goodness, who knowest the thoughts of our hearts, we confess unto thee that we have sinned against thee, and done evil in thy sight. Wash us, we beseech thee, from the stains of our past sins, and give us grace and power to put away all hurtful

things; so that, being delivered from the bondage of sin, we may bring forth worthy fruits of repentance. O eternal Light, shine into our hearts. O eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil. O eternal Power, be thou our support. Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us. Grant unto us that with all our hearts, and minds, and strength, we may evermore seek thy face; and finally bring us, in thine infinite mercy, to thy holy presence. So strengthen our weakness that, following in the footsteps of thy blessed Son, we may obtain thy mercy, and enter into thy promised joy. Amen. —*Alcuin, A. D. 780.*

Commendation

O LORD, preserve us this day and strengthen us to bear whatever thou shalt see fit to lay on us, whether pain, sickness, danger or distress; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —*Dr. Arnold, A. D. 1795.*

For Victory

O GOD, the might of all them that put their trust in thee, grant that we may be more than conquerors over all that make war upon our souls, and, in the end, may enter into perfect peace in thy presence. Amen. —*Roman Breviary.*

For a Knowledge of God's Will

OUR Father, teach us not only thy will, but how to do it. Teach us the best way of doing the best thing, lest we spoil the end by unworthy means; for the sake of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

—*Rev. J. H. Jowett, A. D. 1911.*

To Do and Bear

LET me not seek out of thee what I can find only in thee, O Lord, peace and rest and joy and bliss, which abide only in thine abiding joy. Lift up my soul above the weary round of harassing thoughts to thy eternal Presence. Lift up my soul to the pure,

bright, serene, radiant atmosphere of thy Presence, that there I may breathe freely, there repose in thy love, there be at rest from myself, and from all things that weary me; and thence return, arrayed with thy peace, to do and bear what shall please thee. Amen.

—*E. B. Pusey.*

For Protection of Soul and Body

MAY the power of the Father govern us. May the wisdom of the Son enlighten us. May the operation of the Holy Spirit quicken us. O God, we beseech thee guard our souls; sustain our bodies; exalt our senses; direct our course; regulate our manners; bless our undertakings; fulfill our petitions; inspire us with holy thoughts; pardon what is past; rectify what is present; order what is to come; and all for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour, who alone can make us perfect even as he is perfect. Amen.

—*Bishop Andrewes, A. D. 1555.*

For True Holiness

O LORD, the Lord whose ways are right, keep us in thy mercy from lip-service and empty forms; from having a name that we live, but being dead. Help us to worship thee by righteous deeds and lives of holiness; that our prayer also may be set forth in thy sight as the incense, and the lifting up of our hands be as an evening sacrifice. Amen.

—*Christina G. Rossetti.*

Praise and Adoration

O GOD, the Father of our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ, Lord, whose name is great, whose goodness is inexhaustible, thou God and Master of all things, who art blessed for ever. Sanctify, O Lord, our souls, bodies and spirits, and touch our apprehensions and search out our consciences, and cast out of us every evil thought, every base desire, all envy and pride and hypocrisy, all falsehood, all deceit, all worldly anxiety, all covetousness, vainglory and sloth,

all malice, all wroth, all anger, all remembrance of injuries, every motion of the flesh and spirit that is contrary to thy holy will; and grant us, O Lord, the Lover of men, with freedom, with a pure heart and a contrite soul, without confusion of face, and with sanctified lips, boldly to call upon thee, our holy God and Father, who art in heaven. Amen.

—*Liturgy of Saint James, Second Century.*

For Hatred of Sin

O LORD our God, grant us grace to desire thee with our whole heart; that so desiring we may seek and find thee; and so finding thee may love thee; and loving thee, may hate those sins from which thou hast redeemed us. Amen. —*Anselm (1033–1109).*

For Steadfastness

O GOD, who hast promised that they who endure to the end shall be saved, give us grace to persevere in thy holy service all our days, that we may reach the end of our faith, even the salvation of our soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In Time of Trouble

O MERCIFUL God, be thou now unto me a strong tower of defense, I humbly entreat thee. Give me grace to await thy leisure, and patiently to bear what thou doest unto me, nothing doubting or mistrusting thy goodness toward me; for thou knowest what is good for me better than I do. Therefore do with me in all things what thou wilt; only arm me, I beseech thee, with thine armor, that I may stand fast; above all things, taking to me the shield of faith; praying always that I may refer myself wholly to thy will, abiding thy pleasure, and comforting myself in those troubles which it shall please thee to send me, seeing such troubles are profitable for me; and I am assuredly persuaded that all thou doest cannot but be well; and unto thee be all honor and glory. Amen.

—*Lady Jane Grey (1537–1554).*

Waiting in Silence

MY soul, wait thou in silence for God only;
For my expectation is from him.
He only is my rock and my salvation:
He is my high tower; I shall not be moved.
With God is my salvation and my glory:
The rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God.
Trust in him at all times, ye people;
Pour out your heart before him:
God is a refuge for us. —*Psa. 62. 5–8.*

Dedication to God's Service

O LORD, give thy blessing, we pray thee, to our daily work, that we may do it in faith and heartily, as to the Lord and not unto men. All our powers of body and mind are thine, and we would fain devote them to thy service. Sanctify them, and the work in which they are engaged; let us not be slothful, but fervent in spirit, and do thou, O Lord, so bless our efforts that they may bring forth in us the fruits of true wisdom. Teach us to seek after truth and enable us to gain it; but grant that we may ever speak the truth in love; that, while we know earthly things, we may know thee, and be known by thee, through and in thy Son Jesus Christ. Give us this day thy Holy Spirit, that we may be thine in body and spirit in all our work and all our refreshments; through Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord. Amen.

—*Thomas Arnold, A. D. 1795.*

To Know Thee and Love Thee

GRANT me, even me, my dearest Lord, to know thee, and love thee, and rejoice in thee. And, if I cannot do these perfectly in this life, let me at least advance to higher degrees every day, till I can come to do them in perfection. Let the knowledge of thee increase in me here, that it may be full hereafter. Let the love of thee grow every day more and more here, that it may be perfect hereafter; that my joy may be great in itself, and full in thee. I know, O God,

that thou art a God of truth; O make good thy gracious promises to me, that my joy may be full. Amen.
—*Saint Augustine (354–430).*

For Holiness

COME in, O Christ, and judge us; come and cast out for us every sin that hinders thee; come purge our souls by thy presence. Come be our King forever.
—*Bishop Phillips Brooks, A. D. 1893.*

FOR this cause I bow my knees unto the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, that ye may be strengthened with power through his Spirit in the inward man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; to the end that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be strong to apprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge, that ye may be filled unto all the fullness of God.—*Eph. 3. 14–19.*

For Forgiveness

O GOD, who wouldst not the death of a sinner, but that he should be converted and live, forgive the sins of us who turn to thee with all our heart, and grant us the grace of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —*Ancient Celtic Church Liturgy, Ninth Century.*

For Strength in Difficulties

O ALMIGHTY GOD, grant, we beseech thee, that we whose trust is under the shadow of thy wings, may, through the help of thy power, overcome all evils that rise up against us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —*Roman Breviary, A. D. 1099.*

To Be Saved from False Choices

O GOD, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly, grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace

to ask what thou wouldest have us to do; that the Spirit of Wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in thy light we may see light, and in thy straight path may not stumble, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for Victory

O GOD, the might of all them that put their trust in thee, grant that we may be more than conquerors over all that make war upon our souls, and in the end may enter into perfect peace in thy presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Roman Breviary, A. D. 1099.*

For Knowledge of Thy Will

O HEAVENLY FATHER, subdue in me whatever is contrary to thy holy will. Grant that I may ever study to know thy will, that I may know how to please thee. Grant, O God, that I may never run into those temptations, which in my prayers I desire to avoid. Lord, never permit my trials to be above my strength. Amen. —*Thomas Wilson (1663–1755).*

"As Thou Wilt"

O LORD, thou knowest what is best for us, let this or that be done, as thou shalt please. Give what thou wilt, and how much thou wilt, and when thou wilt. Deal with me as thou thinkest good, and as best pleaseth thee. Set me where thou wilt, and deal with me in all things just as thou wilt. Behold, I am thy servant, prepared for all things; for I desire not to live unto myself, but unto thee; and O that I could do it worthily and perfectly! Amen.

—*Thomas à Kempis (1379–1471).*

For the Spirit of Worship

O GOD, who art the Truth, O God who art a Spirit, help us in spirit and in truth to worship thy great Name; not acknowledging thee in one place or at one

time only, but in every place and at every time, in all we do and in all we see, in our work and in our rest, in our laughter and our tears, in loneliness and in fellowship, in the eye of day and in the shadow of night, beneath the open sky as in the house of prayer, in the heart of the little child as in the wisdom of the man, in the fullness of health and strength and happiness as in the valley of the shadow of death, through which, O Father Almighty, do thou in thy mercy bear us to never-ending life and light and love. Amen.

Sanctification of Life's Small Duties

O FATHER, light up the small duties of this day's life. May they shine with the beauty of thy countenance. May we believe that glory may dwell in the commonest task. For the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord we ask it. Amen.

For Love and Adoration

O LORD, who hast mercy upon all, take away from me my sins, and mercifully kindle in me the fire of the Holy Spirit. Take away from me the heart of stone, and give me a heart of flesh, a heart to love and adore thee, a heart to delight in thee, to follow and to enjoy thee, for Christ's sake. Amen. —*Ambrose.*

At Vespers

IN the evening, and morning, and noonday, we praise thee, we bless thee, we thank thee, and pray thee, Master of all, to direct our prayer as incense before thee; and let not our hearts turn away to words or thoughts of wickedness; but rescue us from all things that hurt our souls. For to thee, Lord, Lord, our eyes look up, and our hope is in thee. Confound us not, O our God. —*Vespers of Eastern Church.*

For Pardon and Power to Do

FORGIVE me, most gracious Lord and Father, if this day I have done or said anything to increase the pain of the world. Pardon the unkind word, the

impatient gesture, the hard and selfish deed, the failure to show sympathy and kindly help where I have had the opportunity but missed it; and enable me so to live that I may daily do something to lessen the tide of human sorrow, and add to the sum of human happiness; through him who died for us and rose again, thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

For Defense in Temptation

O THOU who knowest our hearts, and who seest our temptations and struggles, have pity upon us, and deliver us from the sins which make war upon our souls. Thou art all-powerful, and we are weak and erring. Our trust is in thee, O thou faithful God. Deliver us from the bondage of evil, and grant that we may hereafter be thy devoted servants, serving thee in the freedom of holy love; for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen. —*Eugène Bersier, A. D. 1831.*

A Prayer for Pardon

GRANT us, O Lord, such true repentance as may, through the blood of Jesus Christ our Saviour, blot out the stains of our sins and iniquities. Forgive us our sins, O Lord; forgive us our sins for thine infinite mercies' sake, and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen. —*Archbishop Grindal, 1519.*

For a Sense of God's Presence Everywhere

WE are forced, O Father, to seek thee daily, and thou offerest thyself daily to be found; whensoever we seek we find thee, in the house, in the fields, in the temple, and in the highway. Whatsoever we do, thou art with us, whether we eat or drink, whether we write or work, read, meditate, or pray, thou art ever with us; wheresoever we are or whatsoever we do, we feel some measure of thy mercies and love. If we be oppressed, thou defendest us; if we hunger, thou feedest us. Whatsoever we need, thou givest us. O continue this thy loving-kindness toward us forever, that all the world may see thy power, thy mercy,

and thy love, wherein thou hast not failed us, that all shall see that thy mercies endure forever; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. Amen.

—*J. Norden, A. D. 1548.*

For Loyal Service

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, grant that our wills be ever meekly subject to thy will, and our hearts be ever honestly ready to serve thee; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Roman Breviary, A. D. 1099.*

For Grace to Fight

O HEAVENLY FATHER, the Father of all wisdom, understanding, and true strength, I beseech thee, for thy only Son our Saviour Christ's sake, look mercifully upon me, wretched creature, and send thine Holy Spirit into my breast; that not only I may understand according to thy wisdom, how this temptation is to be borne off, and with what answer it is to be beaten back; but also, when I must join to fight in the field for the glory of thy name, that then I, being strengthened with the defense of thy right hand, may manfully stand in the confession of thy faith, and of thy truth, and may continue in the same unto the end of my life, through the same our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

—*Bishop Ridley (1500–1555).*

That We May Walk Honestly

WE bless and praise and magnify thee, O God of our fathers, who hast led us out of the shadows of night once more into the light of day. Unto thy loving-kindness we make our entreaty; be merciful to our misdeeds; accept our prayers in the fulness of thy compassions, for thou art our refuge from one generation to another, O merciful and almighty God. Suffer the true Sun of thy righteousness to shine in our hearts, enlighten our reason, and purify our senses; that so we may walk honestly as in the day, in the way of thy commandments, and reach at last the life

eternal, where we shall rejoice in thy inaccessible life. For thou art the Fountain of Life, and in thy light shall we see light. —*Greek Church.*

For All Nations

O THOU in whose hand are the hearts of thy creatures, shed abroad thy peace upon the world. By the might of thy Holy Spirit quench the pride, and anger, and greediness which cause man to strive against man, and people against people. Lead all nations in the ways of mutual help and good will, and hasten the time when the earth shall confess thee indeed for its Saviour and King, and no evil deeds of man shall defile thy glorious creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God Trying to Talk to Us

AND is it true, O Lord, that thou art trying to talk to us, and we are not much inclined to listen to thee? The saying seems so totally out of relation to rightness, not to say righteousness, that when we name it, we deny it. And yet, O Lord, when we think it over we must acknowledge that it is true, that God wants to talk to us more than we want to talk to him. We are shamed by this perfidy of our lives. We cannot account for it. The bias in us toward evil seems to override us so. God, the King of earth and the King of souls and the King of eternity, wanting to talk to us, and we so busy or so indolent or so frivolous or so foolish or so wicked, we don't want to talk to him! O Lord, shame this from our hearts this morning. Let the statement of our case be not only our own condemnation but may it lead to our reformation. May we this morning take up life's glad business afresh. Let us begin our Lord's Day with talking to God. It is so sweet to talk to him: it is so quieting to the tangled lines of care that run through and through our lives, so quieting to the tingling nerves, so restful to the deepest heart. It makes such smooth-sailing on wicked waters. It makes such good work when work is hard. It takes the tiredness out of the

shoulders and the feet and the breast. O God, let us all learn the sweetness of talking to thee, the rightness of talking to thee, the deep gladness of talking to thee. Let us learn that, like as the bough that springs back when the bird flies from it, so should our lives spring back to God. Help us, Lord. Amen.

—*Bishop Quayle.*

"In Covenant with Thee"

LORD, though I am a miserable and wretched creature, I am in Covenant with thee through grace. And I may, I will, come to thee, for thy people. Thou hast made me, though very unworthy, a mean instrument to do them some good, and thee service; and many of them have set too high a value upon me, though others wish and would be glad of my death; Lord, however thou dost dispose of me, continue and go on to do good for them. Give them consistency of judgment, one heart, and mutual love; and go on to deliver them, and with the work of reformation; and make the name of Christ glorious in the world. Teach those who look too much on thy instruments, to depend more upon thyself. Pardon such as desire to trample upon the dust of a poor worm, for they are thy people too. And pardon the folly of this short prayer:—even for Jesus Christ's sake. And give us a good night, if it be thy pleasure. Amen.

—*Oliver Cromwell (1599–1658).*

That We Fall into no Sin

O GOD, who art the Author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom; defend us, thy humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger;

but that all our doings, being ordered by thy governance, may be righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who ever liveth and reigneth, world without end.

For Love to Rule the Heart

SET my heart on fire with the love of thee, most loving Father, and then to do thy will, and to obey thy commandments, will not be grievous to me. For to him that loveth, nothing is difficult, nothing is impossible; because love is stronger than death. O may love fill and rule my heart! For then there will spring up and be cherished between thee and me a likeness of character, and union of will, so that I may choose and refuse what thou dost. May thy will be done in me and by me forever. Amen.

—*Paradise for the Christian Soul.*

Before a Journey

GO before thy servant this day;
if Thou thyself go not forth with me,
carry me not up hence.
Thou, who didst guide the Israelites by an Angel,
the wise men by a star;
who didst preserve Peter in the waves,
and Paul in the shipwreck;
be present with me, O Lord, and dispose my way;
go with me, and lead me out, and lead me back.

—*Bishop Andrewes.*

For Spiritual Desires

O HEAVENLY FATHER, we humbly beseech thee to give unto this household, and unto each member of it in particular, a desire and taste for the things that are high and spiritual, the love of holiness, and the longing for the life of heaven. Grant that whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honorable, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely and of good report, if there be anything which is unselfish and

generous, if there be anything which thou wilt accept and reward, we may think on these things, and by the help of thy Holy Spirit may order our lives and form our characters according to them; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—Saint Paul, A. D. 64; adapted from Philippians 4. 8.

For Thy Love

O GOD, Fountain of love, pour thy love into our souls, that we may love those whom thou lovest, with the love thou givest us, and think and speak of them tenderly, meekly, lovingly; and so loving our brethren and sisters for thy sake, may grow in thy love, and dwelling in love may dwell in thee; for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen. *—E. B. Pusey.*

That Our Work may be a Delight

O LORD, renew our spirits and draw our hearts unto thyself that our work may not be to us a burden, but a delight; and give us such a mighty love to thee as may sweeten all our obedience. O, let us not serve thee with the spirit of bondage as slaves, but with the cheerfulness and gladness of children, delighting ourselves in thee and rejoicing in thy work. Amen. *—Benjamin Jenks (1646–1724).*

The Lord's Prayer Paraphrased

OUR FATHER, which art in heaven, In whom we live, and move, and have our being, grant that we and all Christians may live worthy of this glorious relation, and that we may not sin, knowing that we are accounted thine. We are thine by adoption, O make us thine by the choice of our will. *Hallowed be thy Name:* O God, whose name is great, wonderful, and holy, grant that we and all thy children may glorify thee, not only with our lips, but in our lives; that others, seeing our good works, may glorify our Father which is in heaven. *Thy kingdom come:* May the kingdoms of the world become the kingdoms of

the Lord and of his Christ, and may all that own thee for their King become thy faithful subjects, and obey thy laws. Dethrone, O God, and destroy Satan and his kingdom, and enlarge the kingdom of grace. *Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven:* We adore thy goodness, O God, in making thy will known to us in thy Holy Word. May this thy Word be the rule of our will, of our desires, of our lives, and actions. May we ever sacrifice our will to thine, be pleased with all thy choices for ourselves and others, and adore thy providence in the government of the world. *Give us this day our daily bread:* O heavenly Father, who knowest what we have need of, give us the necessaries and comforts of this life with thy blessing; but, above all, give us the Bread that nourisheth to eternal life. O God, who givest to all life and breath and all things, give us grace to impart to such as are in want, of what thou hast given more than our daily bread. *And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us:* Make us truly sensible of thy goodness, and mercy, and patience toward us, that we may from our hearts forgive every one his brother their trespasses. *And lead us not into temptation:* Support us, O heavenly Father, under all our trials, and grant that they may yield us the peaceable fruits of righteousness. *But deliver us from evil:* From all sin and wickedness, from our ghostly enemy, and from everlasting death, good Lord, deliver us. Deliver us from the evil of sin and from the evil of punishment. Deliver us, O heavenly Father, from our evil and corrupt nature, from the temptations and snares of an evil world, and from falling again into the sins repented of. *For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.* By thy almighty power, O King of heaven, for the glory of thy name, and for the love of the Father, grant us all these blessings for which thy Son has taught us to pray. Unto him that is able to do for us abundantly more than we can ask or think, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

—*Bishop Thomas Wilson, A. D. 1663.*

Personal Intercessions

For the Day

LORD, for to-morrow and its needs
I do not pray;
Keep me, my God, from stain of sin
Just for to-day.
Help me to labor earnestly,
And duly pray;
Let me be kind in word and deed,
Father, to-day.

"Having Shut Thy Door Pray"

BUT thou, when thou prayest, enter into thine inner chamber, and having shut thy door, pray to thy Father who is in secret, and thy Father who seeth in secret shall recompense thee. —*Matthew 6. 5, 6.*

For Vision

MY Father, may the heavens be open to-day! I would have visions of the things of God. Give me power to apprehend and love them. May they be to me as meat and drink!

Teach Me how to Pray

O LORD! I know not what I should ask of thee. Thou only knowest what I want; and thou lovest me, if I am thy friend, better than I can love myself. O Lord! give to me, thy child, what is proper, whatsoever it may be. I dare not ask either crosses or comforts. I only present myself before thee. I open my heart to thee. Behold my wants, which I myself am ignorant of; but do thou behold, and do according to thy mercy. Smite, or heal! Depress me, or raise me up. I adore all thy purposes without knowing them. I am silent, I offer myself in sacrifice. I abandon myself to thee. I have no more any desire but to accomplish thy will. Lord, teach me how to pray! Dwell thou thyself in me by thy Holy Spirit.

—*Fénelon (1651–1715).*

Prayers For To-Day

IN this hour of this day, fill us, O Lord, with thy mercy, that rejoicing throughout the whole day, we may take delight in thy praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —*Sarum Breviary, A. D. 1085.*

SEND thy peace into my heart, O Lord, that I may be contented with thy mercies of this day, and confident of thy protection for this night; and having forgiven others even as thou dost forgive me, may I go to my rest in tranquillity and trust; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MY Father, teach me ever deeper meanings in the purpose of life. Save me from abusing my days. Give me a sense of the unspeakable value of time. May I so live as to place a jewel in every moment! May the entire day shine like fine gold!

O LORD, who, in infinite wisdom and love, orderest all things for thy children, order everything this day for me in thy tender pity. Thou knowest my weakness, who madest me; thou knowest how my soul shrinks from all pain of soul. Lord, I know thou wilt lay no greater burden on me than thou canst help me to bear. Teach me to receive all things this day from thee. Enable me to commend myself in all things to thee; grant me in all things to please thee; bring me through all things nearer unto thee; bring me, day by day, nearer to thyself, to life everlasting. Amen. —*E. B. Pusey.*

For Moral Courage

HEAVENLY FATHER, thou knowest the weakness and cowardliness of my heart. Thou knowest how much I care for the opinion of men. Help me, I beseech thee, to care more for what will please thee. Make me strong and courageous that I may never be afraid to do my duty. Give me grace and courage to speak when and as I should. Let me never betray thee, O Christ, my Lord and Saviour, either by word or act.

Prayers for the Morning Watch

O SEARCHER of hearts, thou knowest us better than we know ourselves, and seest the sins which our sinfulness hides from us. Yet even our own conscience beareth witness against us, that we often slumber on our appointed watch; that we walk not always lovingly with each other, and humbly with thee; and we withhold that entire sacrifice of ourselves to thy perfect will, without which we are not crucified with Christ, or sharers in his redemption. O look upon our contrition, and lift up our weakness, and let the dayspring yet arise within our hearts, and bring us healing, strength, and joy. Day by day may we grow in faith, in self-denial, in charity, in heavenly-mindedness. And then, mingle us at last with the mighty host of thy redeemed for evermore. Amen.

—*James Martineau (1805–1900).*

STRONG Son of God, who was tried and tempted to the uttermost, yet without sin; be near me now with thy strength and give me the victory over this evil desire that threatens to ruin me. I am weak, O Lord, and full of doubts and fears. There are moments when I am afraid of myself, when the world and the flesh and the devil seem more powerful than the forces of good. But now I look to thee in whom dwelleth all the fullness of grace and might and redemption. Blessed Saviour! I take thee afresh to be my Refuge, my Covert, my Defense, my strong Tower from the enemy. Hear me and bless me now and ever. Amen. —*Samuel McComb.*

AH, LORD GOD, thou holy Lover of my soul, when thou comest into my soul, all that is within me shall rejoice. Thou art my glory and the exultation of my heart; thou art my hope and refuge in the day of my trouble. Set me free from all evil passions, and heal my heart of all inordinate affections; that, being inwardly cured and thoroughly cleansed, I may be made fit to love, courageous to suffer, steady

to persevere. Nothing is sweeter than love, nothing more courageous, nothing fuller nor better in heaven and earth; because love is born of God, and cannot rest but in God, above all created things. Let me love thee more than myself, nor love myself but for thee. Amen. —*Thomas à Kempis* (*1379–1471*).

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

I AM forced, good Father, to seek thee daily, and thou offerest thyself daily to be found: whensoever I seek, I find thee, in my house, in the fields, in the temple, and in the highway. Whatsoever I do, thou art with me; whether I eat or drink, whether I write or work, go to ride, read, meditate, or pray, thou art ever with me; wheresoever I am, or whatsoever I do, I feel some measure of thy mercies and love. If I be oppressed, thou defendest me; if I be envied, thou guardest me; if I hunger, thou feedest me; whatsoever I want thou givest me. O continue this loving-kindness toward me forever, that all the world may see thy power, thy mercy, and thy love, wherein thou hast not failed me, and even my enemies shall see that thy mercies endure forever.

—*J. Norden* (*1548–1625*).

A Dedication

FATHER, from this moment thou shalt have all there is of me. I put myself and all that goes with me into thy hands. I belong to thee, and nothing that thou dost require of me will I deny thee. Thou shalt have the adoration of my whole heart. This heart shall throb for thee. Thou shalt have my whole will. Thy will shall be my will. Thou shalt have this brain to think thy thoughts after thee, this tongue to speak thy word, these hands to do thy work, these feet to go on thine errands. And if there is anything I have called my own that thou wouldst have, it shall be thine. Lord, thou shalt have all there is of me. Lord, thou hast all there is of me. Use me, I pray thee, for thy dear Son's sake. Amen.

—*Rev. Edward Leigh Pell.*

MY Father, may my influence to-day be sweet and wholesome! May I inspire some desponding heart, even when I do not know it, by the quiet confidence of my faith! May some fearful heart take courage because I am not afraid! May I cheer by my cheerfulness!

Against Evil Thoughts

ALMIGHTY GOD, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves; keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Against Idle Talk

PARDON, O Lord, I beseech thee, my misuse of thy most gracious gift of speech; set a watch upon the door of my lips, that I offend not with my tongue; that being careful to confess my own faults with penitence and not to publish my neighbor's failings with malice or derision, I may ever speak words of love and godliness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Vision

O GOD, open the eyes of our hearts that we may see the wonderful things out of thy law; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LORD, we pray thee that thou wilt open our eyes to behold the heaven that lies about us, wherein they walk who, being born to the new life, serve thee with the clearer vision and the greater joy; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

MAKER and lover of beauty, we adore thee for the splendor of the universe. Help us to use its wonders and its loveliness as an open door through which we shall enter into the imperishable beauty of

thy kingdom; through him on whose face the full beauty of thy being shone, Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

OPEN mine eyes, O Lord, to see thy beauty, and seeing it to love it, and loving it to follow after it, that so I may come at last to thy heavenly kingdom, to see thee face to face in thy beauty, O King of kings; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit art one God, world without end. Amen.

Intercessions

MY Father, wilt thou teach me the meaning of true service? Save me from seeking my life in selfish seclusion. Let me go out of myself to find myself. May I experience the joy of sacrifice! May I enrich the well-being of my brother!

MY Father, may I be helped to strengthen the ties of brotherhood among men to-day! May my life tend to enrich human fellowships! May my speech be a bond of union! May my behavior knit society into a closer communion!

MY Father in heaven, I would remember those whom in prayer I am inclined to forget. I pray for those whom I dislike. Defend me against my own feelings! Change my inclinations! Give me a heart of pity! Give me the purity of heart which finds thine image everywhere!

MY Father, may the Holy Spirit accompany me throughout the hours of this day! May his presence illumine my mind and warm my heart! May he teach me how to think and how to speak! May I not offend in speech or in deed!

GRACIOUS Lord, wilt thou lead me into finer sympathy with all things that are noble and good? Take away all the scales from mine eyes. Help me

to see all things even as thou dost see them. May I have the mind of Christ! —*Dr. J. H. Jowett.*

GREAT GOD, teach me to walk before thee in reverence and godly fear. Save me from flippancy. May no frivolity intrude into my communion with thee! May my Spirit be ever upon its knees! May I never lose sight of the great white throne!

For Confidence and Submission

O LORD, grant that my heart may be truly cleansed and filled with thy Holy Spirit, and that I may arise to serve thee, and lie down to sleep in entire confidence in thee, and submission to thy will, ready for life or for death. Let me live for the day, not overcharged with worldly cares, but feeling that my treasure is not here, and desiring truly to be joined to thee in thy heavenly kingdom, and to those who are already gone to thee. O Lord, save me from sin, and guide me with thy Spirit, and keep me in faithful obedience to thee, through Jesus Christ thy Son, our Lord. Amen. —*Thomas Arnold.*

For Daily Renewal

I GIVE thee humble thanks, O heavenly Father, that thou hast vouchsafed to call me to the knowledge of thy grace and faith in thee; increase this knowledge and confirm this faith in me evermore. Grant that I may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit, so that all sinful affections may die in me and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in me; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Brotherly Sympathy

FATHER of all, wilt thou teach me how to promote the well-being of all thy children? If my outlook be selfish, wilt thou make it brotherly? May my life be like a house with many mansions, with room for the entertainment of my brethren!

HEAVENLY FATHER, give me the grace of sympathy. Keep my affection soft and sensitive. Save me from growing hard. May I be easily touched with the feeling of the injustice done to others!

Dedication

INTO thy hands, O Lord, I commend myself,
my spirit, soul, and body:
Thou didst make, and didst redeem them;
and together with me all my friends
and all that belongs to me.
Thou hast vouchsafed them to me, Lord,
in thy goodness.
Guard my lying down and my rising up,
from henceforth and forever.
Let me remember thee on my bed,
and search out my spirit;
let me wake up and be present with thee;
let me lay down in peace, and take my rest:
for it is thou, Lord, only
that makest me dwell in safety.

—*Bishop Andrewes's Devotions.*

"Purify Me, and I Shall Be Clean"

BEHOLD, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.

Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free Spirit.

Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee. —*Psalm 51. 6–13.*

For Forgiveness

HAVE compassion, O God, upon thy servants; seeing that our hearts are grieved for having offended against thee, and our own consciences condemn us, and we have no refuge save only in thy mercy, which thou hast revealed through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O MERCIFUL God, the Fountain of goodness, who knowest the thoughts of our hearts; we confess unto thee that we have sinned against thee, and done evil in thy sight. Wash us, we beseech thee, from the stains of our past sins, and give us grace and power to put away all hurtful things; that being delivered from the bondage of sin, we may walk in the path of thy commandments; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

AGAINST thee, O Lord, have we sinned, and done evil in thy sight. We are not worthy to be called thy sons. We have sinned miserably. We have periled our souls. And yet what is our sorrow for our sins? O God, we tremble when we see how cold and hard and unmoved our hearts remain. We say, "We are heartily sorry for these our misdoings," yet we much fear our sorrow is not hearty. We say, "The remembrance of them is grievous unto us," yet our grief is but as the shadow that passeth by. We say, "The burden of them is intolerable," yet that burden bears not down our souls in shame and sorrow. O Lord, we are amazed to behold how lightly we are moved by our exceeding sinfulness. Thou who didst cause water to flow out of the rock of stone, break these stony hearts of ours, that streams of true godly sorrow and penitence may flow forth. Take away the heart of stone and give unto us the heart of flesh, that we may feel our own great misery, and cast ourselves upon thy great mercy. May thy Holy Spirit work in us the grace of a true repentance. May we learn to know how much we have sinned and how much we have been forgiven, that so we may love much; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

LORD of all grace, may thy kindly Spirit work in the secret places of my life! I would be thine in the inward parts. I would have no secret chamber of my own. I would give thee every room of my life. Search me and know me, and make me entirely thine.

For Courtesy

MY Saviour, wilt thou teach me the power of the smallest ministries? May I not despise the things that are least! May I pay heed to all the courtesies of life! Help me to be kindly in speech, and tender and graceful in behavior.

For Sympathy

WE thank thee, O Tender Friend, that thou hast not left the world. Bless the homesick, sad-hearted, defeated, and discouraged. Lift up those worn down by hard toil. Supply us with richest sympathy to pour into bruised hearts. Give us tender patience for sinners. Sensitize our ears to the stories that come from those bearing back-bending burdens. May we be good brothers to man. Keep us tender-hearted. Soften our touch. Stop our tongues from stinging speech. Mellow our eyes with a love interest in others. Shape us into good under-shepherds, O Christ Jesus, for thy glory. Amen. —*Christian F. Reisner.*

For the Grace of Reverence

O GOD, our heavenly Father, who hath magnified thy name and thy Word above all things; imprint upon our hearts such a sense of thy majesty and such a reverence for thy holy name, that we may never take it lightly or carelessly upon our lips. Set a watch before our mouth, and keep the door of our lips, that we may always speak soberly and thoughtfully. Let our yea be yea, and our nay, nay, remembering that whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil. Pardon us for all our sins of the tongue in time past, and do thou so open our lips through all the time to come that our mouth shall show forth thy praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For a Joyful Religion

ALMIGHTY GOD, at whose right hand are pleasures forevermore; we pray thee to make our religion one of joy and brightness. Dispel from our minds all doubt and gloom, that as thy redeemed and forgiven children we may evermore rejoice. Grant that day by day our lips may be singing thy praises, and our hearts be gladdened in holy anticipation of the life that knows no ending; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

That I May Be a Child of the Light

BLESSED art thou, O Lord our God, the God of our fathers, who turnest the shadow of death into the morning; who hast lightened mine eyes, that I sleep not in death. O Lord, blot out as a night-mist mine iniquities. Scatter my sins as a morning cloud. Grant that I may become a child of the light, and of the day. Vouchsafe to keep me this day without sin. Uphold me when I am falling, and lift me up when I am down. Preserve this day from any evil of mine, and me from the evils of the day. Let this day add some knowledge, or good deed, to yesterday. O let me hear thy loving-kindness in the morning, for in thee is my trust. Teach me to do the thing that pleaseth thee, for thou art my God. Let thy loving Spirit lead me forth into the land of righteousness. Amen. —*Lancelot Andrewes (1555–1626).*

"Forgive Me My Sins"

FORGIVE me my sins, O Lord, forgive me the sins of my youth and the sins of mine age, the sins of my soul, and the sins of my body, my secret and my whispering sins, my presumptuous and my crying sins, the sins that I have done to please myself, and the sins that I have done to please others. Forgive me those sins which I know, and those sins which I know not; forgive them, O Lord, forgive them all of thy great goodness. Amen. —*Private Devotions, 1560.*

For a Heart Right with God

O LORD, who hast mercy upon all, take away from me my sins, and mercifully kindle in me the fire of thy Holy Spirit. Take away from me the heart of stone, and give me a heart of flesh, a heart to love and adore thee, a heart to delight in thee, to follow and to enjoy thee, for Christ's sake. Amen.

—*Saint Ambrose* (340–397).

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, unto us who know that we are weak, and who trust in thee because we know that thou art strong, the gladsome help of thy loving-kindness, both here in time and hereafter in eternity. Amen. —*Roman Breviary.*

For the Fruits of the Spirit

O ETERNAL FATHER, help me, I beseech thee, to bring forth in my life the fruits of the Spirit; the fruit of Love, that I may love thee above all things, and all others in thee and for thy sake; the fruit of Joy, that I may find thy service my delight; the fruit of Peace, that, pardoned and accepted through thy mercy, I may repose in thy love; the fruit of Long-suffering, that I may bear, with patient submission to thy will, all crosses and afflictions; the fruit of Gentleness, that I may subdue all risings of temper, and take calmly and sweetly all trials and provocations; the fruit of Meekness, that I may forgive freely all who may hurt me either by word or deed, and endure with patience all that may be laid upon me; the fruit of Temperance, that I may restrain all my desires, bringing them into subjection in all things to thy holy will. Amen.

O MERCIFUL GOD, fill our hearts, we pray thee, with the graces of thy Holy Spirit, with love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance. Teach us to love those who hate us; to pray for those who despitefully use us; that we may be the children of thee, our Father, who

makest thy sun to shine on the evil and on the good, and sendest rain on the just and on the unjust.

—*Anselm* (*1033–1109*).

For Grace to Live

O GOD, who, by the example of thy dear Son hast warned us that we should work thy works while it is day, before the night cometh, when no man can work; keep us from sloth and idleness, and from the misuse of those talents which thou hast committed to our trust. Enable us to perform the several duties of our state and calling with such care and diligence that our work may never be reproved in thy sight; and forasmuch as the needful business of this life is apt to steal away our hearts from thee, give us grace to remember that we have a Master in heaven, and to do everything in singleness of heart, as unto thee and not unto men, that of thee we may receive the reward of the inheritance which thou hast promised in thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

O GOD, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly; grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what thou wouldest have us to do; that the Spirit of Wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in thy light we may see light, and in thy straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALMIGHTY GOD, unto whom all souls belong; make us, we beseech thee, sober-minded, truthful, reverent, and pure in heart. Teach us to shun all bad examples and to love every honest way; give us grace to overcome the sin that doth so easily beset us; let no unhallowed words pollute the tongues which thou hast made to praise and bless thee, no evil action defile the bodies which thou hast taught us are the temples of thy presence. From strong and sudden temptation, from pride and selfishness, from hatred, malice and envy, from wicked thoughts and careless

words, from hindering others in good or tempting them to evil, deliver and save us, O Lord our God. We ask it in the name of thy dear Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

For Grace to Die

O GOD, who holdest our souls in life, and hast appointed unto all men once to die; grant that when our last hour cometh, and the time of our earthly sojourn is ended, we may neither be troubled nor dismayed; but being satisfied with thy goodness and mercy, we may commend our spirits to thy care; and firmly trusting in the merits of thy Son, our Saviour, we may obtain a peaceful death and a happy entrance into glory. And this we beg for the sake of him who died for us that we might live with thee forever. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THE MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH

For the Church

For the Church of Christ Throughout the World

LET us pray for the churches throughout the world, for their truth, unity, and stability; that in all, charity may flourish, and truth may live. For our own church, that what is lacking in it may be supplied, and what is unsound corrected; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Lord and Saviour. Amen.

—*Bishop Andrewes, A. D. 1555.*

O THOU who hast founded a church for thyself, and hast promised to dwell in it forever; enlighten and sanctify it, we beseech thee, by thy Word and Spirit; endue all pastors and ministers with thy grace, that they may with joy and assurance guard and feed thy sheep, looking to the great Bishop and Shepherd of souls. Bless all who serve thee in the rule of thy church; in the care of thy poor; in the ministry of thy praise; and in the teaching of the young. Strengthen them in their labors; give them courage to witness a good confession; and cause thy church to increase more and more, that every knee may bow before thee, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. Amen.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast built thy church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief Corner Stone, grant that by the operation of the Holy Spirit all Christians may be so joined together in unity of Spirit, and in the bond of peace, that they may be an

holy temple acceptable unto thee. And especially to this congregation present give the abundance of thy grace, that with one heart they may desire the prosperity of thy holy universal Church, and with one mouth may profess the faith once delivered to the saints. Defend them from the sins of false doctrine and the spirit of strife; let not the foot of pride come nigh to hurt them, nor the hand of the ungodly to cast them down. And grant that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by thy governance, that thy church may joyfully serve thee in all godly quietness; that so they may walk in the ways of truth and peace, and at last be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting; through thy merits, O blessed Jesus, thou gracious Bishop and Shepherd of our souls, who art, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

O GOD, Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the faithful, visit, we pray thee, this congregation with thy love and favor; enlighten their minds more and more with the light of the everlasting gospel; graft in their hearts a love of the truth; increase in them true religion; nourish them with all goodness; and of thy great mercy keep them in the same, O blessed Spirit, whom, with the Father and the Son together, we worship and glorify as one God, world without end. Amen.

O GOD, the Sovereign Good of the soul, who requirest the hearts of all thy children; deliver us from all sloth in thy work, all coldness in thy cause; and grant us by looking unto thee to rekindle our love, and by waiting upon thee to renew our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O GOD of all power, who hath called from death the great Pastor of the sheep, our Lord Jesus, comfort and defend the flock which he hath redeemed by the blood of the eternal testament; increase the number of true preachers; mitigate and lighten the hearts of the ignorant; relieve the pains of such as

be afflicted, but especially of those that suffer for the testimony of the truth, by the power of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. —*John Knox, A. D. 1505.*

LORD, we beseech thee to keep thy household the church in continual godliness; that through thy protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve thee in good works, to the glory of thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Unity of God's People

"That They All May Be One"

HOLY FATHER, keep them in thy name which thou hast given me, that they may be one, even as we are. While I was with them, I kept them in thy name which thou hast given me: and I guarded them, and not one of them perished, but the son of perdition; that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I come to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy made full in themselves. I have given them thy word; and the world hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that thou shouldest take them from the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth: thy word is truth. As thou didst send me into the world, even so sent I them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth. Neither for these only do I pray, but for them also that believe on me through their word; that they may all be one; even as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be in us: that the world may believe that thou didst send me. —*John 17. 11–21.*

O GOD, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Saviour, the Prince of Peace; give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in

by our unhappy divisions. Take away from us all hatred and prejudice, and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that as there is but one body, and one Spirit, and one hope of our calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may henceforth be all of one heart, and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Book of Common Prayer, A. D. 1626.*

O LORD GOD, the one God, make thy people one. Whatever be our differences, even in matters essential, may we ever realize that we are all one in Christ Jesus. Let not Satan break the blessed bond of union between believers, but may it be increasingly strengthened in our own experience, and in all thy people everywhere; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen. —*Rev. Benjamin Jenks, A. D. 1646.*

Preparation for Worship

For the Spirit of Worship

O OUR GOD, we humbly beseech thee to purify our hearts from all vain and worldly and sinful thoughts, and so prepare our souls to worship thee this day acceptably, with reverence and godly fear. O Lord, set our affection on things above all the day long, and give us grace to receive thy Word which we shall hear this day, into honest and good hearts, and bring forth fruit with patience. Hear us, O God, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

LET thy Holy Spirit accompany us to the place of thy public worship, making us serious and attentive, and raising our minds from the thoughts of this world to the consideration of the next, that we may fervently join in the prayers and praises of thy church, and listen to our duty with honest hearts, in order to practice it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For a Blessing on the Services of the Day

MERCIFUL FATHER, we commend to thee the worship and ordinances of this day. Bless all our souls, keep our hearts and thoughts in thy house of prayer. Speak to us through thy Holy Word, which liveth and abideth forever. Pour the continual dew of thy blessing on all thy ministers; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Consecration of the Sabbath

O LORD, our heavenly Father, at the beginning of another week we come to thee for help and light. Grant, we beseech thee, that we may hallow this day of rest to thy service, and find in thee all peace and strength. Quicken our devotion that we may serve thee in spirit and in truth, and lay a good foundation for our coming work. Be with us in all the public services of thy day, that we may join in them with heart and soul, and receive the blessing which thou hast promised to all who sincerely pray to thee and faithfully hear thy word. This we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

"Where Two or Three are Gathered Together in My Name"

O LORD GOD, who hast taught us to pray all together, and hast promised to hear the united voices of two or three invoking thy name; hear now, O Lord, the prayers of thy servants unto their salvation, and give us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Armenian Liturgy, A. D. 370.*

Collect for Sunday Morning

MOST Gracious God, who strengthenest the weak and renewest the weary, and givest to thy faithful servants a peace which the world can neither give nor take away, may this season of heavenly rest be entirely free from sin, as from labor and worldly care; and let thy grace abound in our hearts that we may be in the Spirit on this Lord's Day. Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Day

O GOD, glory be to thy name for this day. Make it a day of reverent joy, and holy gladness of heart, and so bring home to us the greatness of our spiritual mercies in Christ, that we may be filled with love and praise, and evermore give thanks unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For a Sunday Blessing

WE praise thee, O Lord our God, for this thy holy day. Grant that it may be to us a day of rest from worldly toil and care. Refresh our souls with thy heavenly gifts. Enable us to worship thee in thy house of prayer, in spirit, and in truth. Bless the ministers of thy church, especially those who labor in this place; make thy word in their mouth powerful to the conversion of sinners, and to the building up of thy people in the faith of thy blessed Son. Grant that all who confess thy holy name may be of one heart, and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and love, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Those Who Forget the Day

O GOD, grant that they who, neglecting thy worship on thy holy day, give themselves rather to the business or pleasures of the world, may turn to thee while it is yet time, so that they perish not when the world and its lust shall have passed away, but being found in him who died for us and rose again, may be saved by grace; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

That "We May Be Doers of the Word and Not Hearers Only"

O LORD GOD of our life, who hast given us the rest of this sacred day, grant that the benediction of its restfulness may abide upon us throughout the week. Enable us to carry the influence of its conse-

cration into all that we do; let the praises of our lips rendered to thee this day become praise in our lives. May the power of thy love be with us in every duty, that by pureness, by knowledge, and by tenderness we may glorify thee; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer Upon Entering Church

O LORD, help me to worship thee in spirit and in truth. Make me attentive to thy word, and bless my soul for my Redeemer's sake. Amen.

OPEN thou, O Lord, my lips to praise thee; drive from my heart evil affections and from my mind wandering thoughts, that with devotion I may join in this service, and so glorify thee on earth as to be heard by thee in heaven; through Jesus Christ thy Son. Amen.

For a Blessing on Divine Worship

AS for us, we will go into thy house in the multitude of thy mercies; and in thy fear will we worship toward thy holy temple. Hear the voice of our supplications when we cry unto thee. We have thought of thy loving-kindness, O God, in the midst of thy temple. Be mindful, O Lord, of those who will be present with us, and pray with us this day; be mindful of those also who upon good cause are absent; and have mercy upon them and us according to the multitude of thy mercies, O Lord. Let, O Lord, we beseech thee, thine eyes be open, and let thine ears be attentive unto the prayer which thy servant prayeth toward thy holy place, which is called by thy name; for the sake of Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord. Amen. —*Bishop Andrewes, A. D. 1555.*

O HEAVENLY FATHER, forasmuch as none can come to receive thy Holy Word, except thou draw them by thy gracious inspiration, we beseech thee to pour out thy Holy Spirit upon those who worship to-day in thy holy house of prayer, that their

hearts may be inclined favorably to receive, steadfastly to retain, and obediently to perform, whatsoever shall be taught them in thy name; and that they may manifest, in the dedication to thee of their lives and substance, that thankfulness which they owe to thee for thy redeeming love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, from whom every good prayer cometh, and who pourest out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and supplication, deliver us, when we draw nigh to thee, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship thee in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Before Service in Church

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, from whom every good prayer cometh; pour out thy Spirit upon me and upon all who draw near to thee in this holy place, that we may be delivered from all coldness of heart and wanderings of mind. Bless to us the ministry of thy servants, and grant that we may all worthily show forth thy praise, humbly learn thy Word, and render our thanks for all thy mercies to us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Upon Leaving Church

O LORD, forgive all my sins, and bless the services in which I have been engaged, to my spiritual and everlasting good; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears may, through thy grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honor and praise of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Gelasian Sacramentary, A. D. 494.*

General Prayers for Common Worship

Adoration

I

ETERNAL and ever-blessed God, we bow down before thy divine majesty, adoring thee, the Lord of heaven and earth, of whom and through whom and to whom are all things; unto whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

II

HOLY, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty; there is none like unto thee, who hast set thy glory above the heavens. Praise waiteth for thee in Zion, and unto thee shall the vow be performed. Hearken to the adoration of thy people, we beseech thee, and let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord our strength and our Redeemer. Amen.

III

O GOD, whose being and perfections are infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, the same yesterday, today, and for ever: thou art glorious in holiness, full of love and compassion, abundant in grace and truth. All thy works praise thee in all places of thy dominion: and thy Son hath glorified thee upon earth. Therefore we bow down and adore thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, one God, blessed for evermore. Amen.

IV

BLESSING, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb forever and forever. Amen.

Ascriptions of Praise

I

NOW unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us; unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

II

NOW unto Him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy; to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

III

UNTO Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

IV

NOW unto the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen or can see: to him be honor and power everlasting. Amen.

V

GLORY be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory. O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy, thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Thanksgiving

I

ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving kind-

ness to us and to all men. We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life, but, above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we may show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

II

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift; we give thee praise and hearty thanks for all thy mercies:

For thy goodness that hath created us; thy bounty that hath sustained us; thy fatherly discipline that hath chastened and corrected us; thy patience that hath borne with us; thy love that hath redeemed us. [*Here any special mercy may be named.*]

Grant unto us with thy gifts a heart to love thee, and enable us to show our thankfulness for all thy benefits by giving up ourselves to thy service, and cheerfully submitting in all things to thy blessed will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

III

MOST heartily do we thank thee, O Lord, for all thy mercies of every kind, and for thy loving care over all thy creatures. We bless thee for the gift of life, for thy protection round about us, for thy guiding hand upon us, and for the many tokens of thy love within us; especially for the saving knowledge of thy dear Son, our Redeemer; and for the living presence of thy Spirit, our Comforter. We thank thee for friendship and duty, for good hopes and precious memories, for the joys that cheer us and for the trials that teach us to trust in thee. In all these things, our heavenly Father, make us wise unto a right

use of thy great benefits; and so direct us that in word and deed we may render an acceptable thanksgiving unto thee, in Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

IV

MOST gracious God, the Fountain of all blessing; thou hast opened thy hand to fill us with all good things: thou dost govern us as a King, thou feedest us like a shepherd, thou keepest us beneath the shadow of thy wings in safety, thou providest for us as a father, thou lovest us as a friend and thinkest on us perpetually, and art exceeding merciful to all that fear thee; and unto thee, O Lord, we ascribe the praise and honor of our redemption. Amen.

V

MOST glorious God, accept, through thy beloved Son, our thanksgivings for thine unspeakable love and goodness. Thou art the Father of mercies, and God of all consolation, full of compassion, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin. We thank thee that thou hast founded thy church upon the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief Corner Stone. We thank thee that thou hast committed to thy ministers the Word of reconciliation. Continue thy loving-kindness unto us, that we may rejoice and be glad in thee all our days. Guide us by thy counsel, and afterward receive us to thy glory; where, with all the blessed host of heaven, we may behold, adore, and perfectly and joyfully praise thee, our most glorious Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, for ever and ever. Amen.

Confession

I

O LORD, our heavenly Father, who of thy great mercy hast promised forgiveness of sins to all them that repent and turn unto thee, have mercy upon us; deliver us from all our evils, strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us unto everlasting life. We confess, O heavenly Father, that in thought, word, and work we have sinned against heaven and in thy sight,

and are not worthy to be called thy children. But thou, O Lord, art good, and ready to forgive, and plenteous in mercy to all them that call upon thee. Lead us, O Lord, to true repentance. Search our hearts by the light of thy truth, and renew a right spirit within us, that we may be enabled to see and acknowledge our evils, and to shun them as sins against thee, and in the faithful and diligent performance of our duties may learn to do justly, and love mercy, and walk humbly with thee our God. This we ask in Jesus Christ. Amen.

II

MOST holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess in thy presence: our sinful nature prone to evil and slothful in good, and all our shortcomings and offences against thee. Thou alone knowest how often we have sinned: in wandering from thy ways, in wasting thy gifts, in forgetting thy love. But thou, O Lord, have pity upon us, who are ashamed and sorry for all wherein we have displeased thee. Teach us to hate our errors, cleanse us from our secret faults, and forgive our sins, for the sake of thy dear Son our Saviour. And O most holy and loving Father, send thy purifying grace into our hearts, we beseech thee, that we may henceforth live in thy light and walk in thy ways, according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

III

HAVE mercy upon us, O God, according to thy loving-kindness; according to the multitude of thy tender mercies, blot out our transgressions. For we acknowledge our transgressions, and our sins are ever before us. We confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, and are not worthy to be called thy children. But thou, O Lord, art good, and ready to forgive, and plenteous in mercy to all them that call upon thee. To the broken in heart thou hast promised to be near, and to save such as be of a contrite spirit. Grant us a spirit of sincere contrition, that, searching our hearts by the light of

thy truth, we may be enabled to see and acknowledge our evils, and to shun them as sins against thee. And may we be thus delivered, O Lord, from all idolatry of self and the world, from all pride and self-will, from all prejudice, blindness, and hardness of heart, from covetousness and ambition, from all feelings of animosity, resentment, and contempt for those whom we dislike. Amen.

IV

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, we are sinners before thee, the righteous and holy God; we have forfeited all claim to thy favor, and need the assurance of thy forgiveness. Our hearts are ever prone to evil, and we need thy blessed Spirit to purify our secret thoughts and motives. We bless thee for the sure promise that, if any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the Righteous; and that, if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Lord, cleanse thou the thoughts of our hearts by thy Holy Spirit. Create in us a clean heart, and renew within us a right spirit. We pray thee to keep us from temptation, from all deception and envy, from covetousness and evil desire. Give to us wisdom, O Lord, in our daily affairs, and grace to trust thee in all things. O Lord, we place ourselves and our concerns in thy hands for the day on which we have now entered. May we in all things live as thine, and live in thy love! And this, our morning sacrifice of prayer and praise, we offer through our great High Priest, who ever liveth to make intercession for us. Amen.

Petition

General Intercession

I

ALMIGHTY GOD, our Father, our Hope, and our Deliverer, we humbly beseech thee to save us who trust in thee; to deliver us from our enemies,

to save us from our sins, and to bring us to thine eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Remember not, Lord, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not angry with us forever. From all evil and mischief; from sin, from the crafts and assaults of the devil; from thy wrath, and from everlasting damnation; from all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness, good Lord, deliver us! In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our health; in the hour of death; and in the Day of Judgment, good Lord, deliver us! That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred and are deceived. That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand, and to comfort and help the weak-hearted, and to raise up them that fall, and finally to beat down Satan under our feet. We beseech thee to hear us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

II

O GOD, who art loving unto every man, and whose mercy is over all thy works, we beseech thee to extend thy mercy and compassion to the whole race of mankind, that their souls may be saved in the great day of the Lord Jesus Christ. Bless our native land, turn from us those national judgments which we have deserved, put an end to profaneness, intemperance, impiety, indifference of thee. Bless thy holy church throughout the world, pour thy divine grace on thy ministers, and grant to them all zeal, wisdom, and piety in their ministry. Bless all thy missionary servants, and grant them grace to lead to the cross of Christ those who know thee not, and who are lying in darkness and in the shadow of death. Bless, O Lord, the work of Christian education, that the young may be trained up in the way they should go, and that every child may be imbued with early piety. Bless the widow and the orphan, the sick and the afflicted, the injured and the dying. Comfort them,

O Lord, in their grief and sorrow, for thou only, O Saviour, canst wipe away all tears from their eyes, and be an ever-present help in trouble. Bless all those who are in any way connected with us, our relations and friends. Wherever this day we can send a loving thought, there send, we humbly beseech thee, a Father's blessing. Hear us, O God, for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Saviour. Amen.

III

O GOD, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men, that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for the good estate of the universal and holy catholic Church: that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit that all who profess and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy Fatherly goodness all those who are in any way afflicted or distressed in mind, body, or estate, that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them according to their several necessities; giving them patience under their sufferings and a happy issue out of all their afflictions; and this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day, defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that which is righteous in thy sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

IV

O GOD the Father of heaven, O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, O God the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, have mercy upon us and receive our prayer! By the mystery of

thy holy incarnation; by thy holy nativity and circumcision; by thy baptism, fasting, and temptation; by thine agony and bloody sweat; by thy cross and passion; by thy precious death and burial; by thy glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Ghost, good Lord, deliver us! In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death and in the day of judgment, good Lord, deliver us! And for every victory in this present time over our adversaries, and for the final victory which thou shalt win for us over sin and death and the grave, we will praise thee forever, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

V

LORD JESUS, we intercede with thee for the conversion of all in this parish, who are living in willful sin and godlessness. Turn them, O Lord, and they shall be turned. Take from them the heart of stone, and give them the heart of flesh. Rouse them to see their peril, and to flee from the wrath to come. Hear, O Lord, our special intercession for those near and dear to ourselves. Make us also to labor as we pray, and may each one of us be an instrument in the salvation of some one soul. Hear us, O Saviour, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, evermore. Amen.

VI

ALMIGHTY GOD, Fountain of wisdom, goodness and love, we ask for this church the consecration of thy presence and spirit. May all thy children be ever welcome here. Hither may the little ones love to come, and here may young men and maidens be strengthened for the battle of life. Here may the strong renew their power, and hither may age turn its footsteps to find the peace of God and light at eventide. Here may the poor and needy find friends. Here may the tempted find succor, the sorrowing find comfort, and the bereaved catch the vision of their loved ones in the eternal home. Here may those who doubt have their better hopes confirmed. Here may the

careless be awakened to their folly and sin, and be brought to timely repentance. Here may thy faithful people make manifest the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth, and may this house be the place where thine honor dwelleth, and the whole earth be filled with thy glory. Amen.

VII

ETERNAL, Holy, Almighty, whose name is Love; we are met in solemn company to seek thy face, and in spirit and truth to worship thy name. We come in deep humility, since thou art so high and exalted, and because thou beholdest the proud afar off. We come in tender penitence, for the contrite heart is thy only dwelling. We come in the name and spirit of Jesus to make our wills one with thine; to abandon our lonely and selfish walk for solemn communion with thee, to put an end to sin by welcoming to our hearts thy Holy Presence. Deeper than we have known, enter, thou Maker of our souls; clearer than we have ever seen, dawn thy glory on our sight. Light the flame upon the altar, call forth the incense of prayer, waken the song of praise, and manifest thyself to all. Amen.

VIII

O CHRIST, our God, remember thy strong and thy weak ones, great and small, men and women, for good. Remember the righteous who worship thee by faith, and bestow on them the blessing of those who not having seen, believed. Remember and bless all who worship thee by prayer, and reveal thy gracious presence unto them. Remember any overthrown through frailty, raise them up and perfect thy strength in their weakness. Remember the bereaved in their anguish, and make their latter end better than their beginning. Furnish the fallen with love, and accept their love. Grant to sufferers faith, and reward their faith. Remember the despised, the overlooked, the misunderstood, reserving mercy for them in the day of thy justice. Remember munificent hands to refill them, and generous hearts to spiritualize them. Re-

member us all, O God, for good; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Special Intercessions for Common Worship

For the Church

O LORD GOD, heavenly Father, pour out, we beseech thee, thy Holy Spirit upon thy faithful people. Keep them steadfast in thy grace and truth, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all enemies of thy Word, and bestow upon Christ's church militant thy saving peace; through the same, thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end. Amen.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast built thy church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief Corner Stone, grant that, by the operation of the Holy Ghost, all Christians may be so joined together in unity of spirit, and in the bond of peace, that they may be an holy temple acceptable unto thee. And especially to this congregation present give the abundance of thy grace; that with one heart they may desire the prosperity of thy holy church, and with one mouth may profess the faith once delivered to the saints. Defend them from the sins of heresy and schism, let not the foot of pride come nigh to hurt them, nor the hand of the ungodly to cast them down. And grant that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by thy governance, that thy church may joyfully serve thee in all godly quietness; that so they may walk in the ways of truth and peace, and at last be numbered with thy saints in glory everlasting; through thy merits, O blessed Jesus, thou gracious Bishop and Shepherd of our souls, who art with the Father and the Holy Ghost one God, world without end. Amen.

O MERCIFUL GOD, bless thy holy church throughout all the world; bless especially the portion of it in which we live; make all the members of it sound

in faith, and holy in life, that they may truly and heartily serve thee. We commend to thy Fatherly goodness our relations, friends, and neighbors, and all who desire or ought to be specially remembered in our prayers. Succor the poor, comfort all in trouble, have mercy on the sick and dying, and help us by thy grace to prepare ourselves daily for the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE beseech thee to hear us, O God, and grant that all ministers and teachers of religion may be so endued with the healthful spirit of thy grace, that they may be men of honest mind and simple heart, and set forth thy truth, both by their word and life! through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O LORD, we beseech thee to maintain thy church in truth and patience; that her pastors may be faithful, her watchmen vigilant, her flock loyal, her camp united, her war spiritual, her weapons heavenly, her lamps burning and shining; and as thy Son Jesus Christ hath given so great a price for us, let us not count it a hard thing to give up all for him, and to spend and be spent for the souls he hath redeemed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—Original source not found.

For the Ministry at Home and Abroad

MOST blessed Saviour, who hast appointed divers orders of men in thy church, look graciously at this time upon thy ministering servants. Endue them with thy Holy Spirit; make them apt to teach, gentle to persuade, and wise to win souls; cheer and comfort them in their labors; feed them with the Bread of Life, bless them in their labors, and make them willing to spend and be spent for thee. Lord Jesus, let thine especial favor rest upon those who are preaching thy gospel to the heathen, and those who know thee not. Support them amidst all their trials, and grant that the word spoken by their mouths may have such success, that it may never be spoken in

vain. Hasten, Lord, the time when they shall no more teach every man his neighbor and every man his brother, saying, "Know the Lord, for all shall know thee, from the least to the greatest." Grant this for thine own name's sake. Amen.

—*Bishop Ashton Oxenden, A. D. 1808.*

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who didst command thy disciples to pray the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth laborers into his harvest; we beseech thee graciously to increase the number of faithful ministers of thy Word, and to send them forth among all nations of men, that perishing souls may be saved, and the bounds of thy blessed kingdom be enlarged. We ask it, O merciful Saviour, for the glory of thy name, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast in thy holy church committed to the hands of men the ministry of reconciliation, to gather together a great flock in all parts of the world, to the eternal praise of thy holy name; we humbly beseech thee that thou wilt put it in the hearts of many faithful men to seek this sacred ministry, appointed for the salvation of mankind; that so thy church may rejoice in a due supply of true and faithful pastors, and the bounds of thy blessed kingdom may be enlarged; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Evangelistic Work

INCREASE, O God, the faith and the zeal of all thy people, that they may more earnestly desire, and more diligently seek, the salvation of their fellow men, through the message of thy love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Send forth a mighty call unto thy servants to preach thy word, and multiply the number of those who labor in the gospel, granting unto them a heart of love, sincerity of speech, and the power of the Holy Ghost, that they may be able to persuade men

to forsake sin and turn unto thee. And so bless and favor the work of thine evangelists, that multitudes may be brought from the kingdom of evil into the kingdom of thy dear Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

For the Children

HEAR this, we beseech thee, our prayer for those who teach the young, that they may first be taught of thee. Bless the children of our Sunday schools. Open their hearts to receive thy truth. May they feel their need of the renewing influence of the Holy Spirit, and be led to holiness of life, without which they cannot enter the kingdom of heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Those in Affliction

GOD of all comfort, we commend to thy mercy all those upon whom any cross or tribulation is laid; the nations who are afflicted with famine, pestilence, or war; those of our brethren who suffer persecution for the sake of the gospel; all such as are in danger by sea or land or in the air, and all persons oppressed with poverty, sickness, or any infirmity of body or sorrow of mind. We pray particularly for the sick and afflicted members of this church, and for those who desire to be remembered in our prayers [and for any such known to ourselves, whom we name in our hearts before thee]. May it please thee to show them thy Fatherly kindness, chastening them for their good, that their hearts may turn unto thee, and receive perfect consolation, and deliverance from all their troubles, for Christ's sake. Amen.

BE merciful, O God, unto all who need thy mercy, and let the Angel of thy Presence save the afflicted: be thou the Strength of the weary, the Comfort of the sorrowful, the Friend of the desolate, the Light of the wandering, the Hope of the dying, the Saviour of the lost, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

WE remember before thee, O Lord, our brethren who are tried with sickness: entreating thee to increase their faith and patience, to restore them to health, if it be thy will, and to give them a happy issue out of all their troubles. Have pity on all widows and orphans; succor all who are in danger by sea and land and air, all prisoners and captives, and all who are oppressed with labor and toil. Have mercy on those who are tempted, and on those who are in darkness and perplexity, and strengthen them with thy Holy Spirit. Be present with those who are dying, and grant that they may depart in peace, fearing no evil, and live before thee in thy heavenly kingdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

For One Kept from Church

O HEAVENLY FATHER, we pray for a blessing upon thy servant, hindered by infirmity from going up to the house of prayer. Thine eyes are in every place. Thine ear is open unto every prayer that is offered in spirit and in truth. O be with thy servant in his home, and may he find thy presence ever near to him. Thou hast cut off from him the privilege of worshiping with his brethren in the congregation. Give him much joy and comfort in the prayer of the secret closet. And so bless and guide him, O merciful Father, that, when the poor, imperfect worship of this world is no more, he may join forever in the glorious and perfect worship of the heavenly chorus; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For All Who Do Good to Their Fellow Men

O GOD, who hast given unto thy servants diversities of gifts by the same Spirit, and hast taught us by thy holy apostle that all our doings without charity are nothing worth; be pleased to bless and prosper all who love and serve their fellow men with a pure heart fervently, remembering the poor, healing the sick, comforting the sorrowful, teaching the ignorant, and lifting up the afflicted; let their prayers

and alms come up for a memorial before thee; and reward them plentifully with peace; through the merits of Jesus Christ our only Saviour. Amen.

O LORD, grant to us so to love thee with all our heart, with all our mind, and all our soul, and our neighbor for thy sake; that the grace of charity and brotherly love may dwell in us, and all envy, harshness, and ill-will may die in us; and fill our hearts with feelings of love, kindness, and compassion, so that, by constantly rejoicing in the happiness and good success of others, by sympathizing with them in their sorrows, and putting away all harsh judgments and envious thoughts, we may follow thee, who art thyself the true and perfect Love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O ETERNAL GOD, the very God of peace and all consolation, which broughtest again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the everlasting covenant, make us fruitful in all good works to do thy will, and work in us that which is acceptable in thy sight; sanctify us throughout, and keep our whole spirit, soul, and body faultless unto the coming of thy dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Thou art faithful, O Father, who hast promised this, who also shalt bring it to pass; to thee, therefore, be given everlasting praise, honor, and glory. Amen.

—*The Writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews, Hebrews 13. 20, A. D. 64.*

For Our Country

O GOD, who art the hope of all the ends of the earth; remember the whole creation, pity our race, and save the world from sin. Protect our land from whatever threatens her welfare, so that religion and virtue may flourish more and more. Give the spirit of wisdom and godly fear to thy servant the President of the United States, and all who are in authority over us. Give humility to the rich, and grace to use their riches to thy glory: bless the people

in their callings and families, and be thou a refuge to the poor in their distress. Make every home a shelter from temptation and a nursery of noble youth; take also the homeless beneath thy protection. Cleanse and sanctify the church which thou hast loved, and reveal the spirit of thy Son through the life and service of thy people. Enlighten all who are perplexed in faith, support those who are tempted, awaken those who sleep, comfort the afflicted, and encourage such as are ready to faint. Encompass with thy favor all whose lives thou hast bound up with our own, and, if there be any who do us wrong, remove all bitterness from our hearts while we pray for thy blessing upon them. Give peace, O Lord, in our time, and unite all hearts in the love of thy dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Government[1]

ALMIGHTY GOD, the Father of lights, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift, send down, we beseech thee, upon thy servant, our President, and all members of the Cabinet and of Congress, prudence, fortitude, temperance, and justice, that alike in framing policy and in debate they may be guided by eternal truth and right; this we ask in the name of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Charity

O CREATOR and Preserver of mankind, whose will is that not one of thy children should perish, but that all should have eternal life; we beseech thee for increase of the heavenly gift of charity: that we may account nothing common or unclean which thou hast made, nor despise those who through ignorance and temptation have wandered into sin; nor hate those who, following the evil of their own hearts, have wrought wickedness in the earth; but help us, rather, to imitate the example of thy Son, in patience toward

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[1] *Note: See Prayers for Our Nation and Rulers, page 188.*

the infirmities of mankind, and hope for the redemption of those who are furthest off from thee; seeking ever to overcome hatred with love and evil with good; that others may see our good works, and glorify with us our Father in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Spirit of Wisdom

O GOD, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly, grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what thou wouldst have us to do, that the spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in thy light we may see light and in thy straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Scotch Book of Common Order.*

For Sanctification

LORD, sanctify us wholly, that our whole spirit, soul, and body may become thy temple. O do thou dwell in us, and be thou our God, and we will be thy servants, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

—*Bishop Ken, A. D. 1637.*

"Teach Us Thy Way"

GIVE ear, O Lord, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications.

Teach me thy way, O Lord, I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name.

I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name for evermore.

For great is thy mercy toward me.

—*Psalm 86. 6, 11–13.*

An Evening Prayer

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord, and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thine only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Commendation

LET thy Fatherly hand, we beseech thee, ever be over us; let thy Holy Spirit ever be with us, and so lead us in the knowledge and obedience of thy Word, that in the end we may obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Archbishop Hermann's "Consultatio," A. D. 1545.*

For Preparation for the Holy Communion

Before Holy Communion

TAKE away from us, we beseech thee, O Lord, all our iniquities, and the spirit of pride and arrogance, which thou resisteth, and fill us with the spirit of fear, and give us a contrite and humble heart, which thou dost not despise, that we may be enabled with pure minds to enter into the Holy of holies; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

On Coming to the Lord's Table

O THOU high and holy One, who hast prepared a table for me in the wilderness, and invited me to partake of the feast which thou hast spread, help me to approach thee in that holy Sacrament with a penitent, believing, loving heart. O my Saviour, thou who art the Bread of Life, nourish my soul, for it needs thy constant support. Give me right feelings in coming to thy table. Put away from me all worldliness, and sin, and unbelief. Purify my heart. Fill me with love to thee. I look to thy cross for pardon, and to thy Holy Spirit for sanctifying grace. I look to thee as my great Helper, as my ever-present Lord and Friend. Be with me now especially. Manifest thyself to me in the breaking of bread. Draw nearer to me than thou hast ever yet done, and make me to feel joy and comfort in this thine own ordinance. Bring me to thy banqueting-house, and may thy banner over me be love. O bless me, strengthen me, feed me, refresh me, both now and evermore. Amen.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who didst command thy disciples to partake of the holy sacrament of thy most blessed body and blood, I would in humble thankfulness obey thy gracious command. Help me to draw near with faith, that I may take it to my comfort. May I find in it strength to withstand all temptations, and consolation in the midst of every trouble. May it bring peace and joy to my heart. May I realize thy presence and learn new lessons of thy love. Join me anew unto thyself and to thy Spiritual Body, the blessed company of all faithful people; and to thee, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, shall be the glory, world without end. Amen.

"Do This in Remembrance of Me"

GRANT, O Lord, we beseech thee, unto thy servants who shall this day commemorate in the Holy Sacrament the precious death of thy dear Son and receive the blessed communion of his body and blood, that they may approach thy holy table with true repentance, faith, thankfulness, and charity; and being filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, may obtain remission of their sins and all other benefits of his Passion, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LET this holy communion be to me, O God, a beginning of better things, as if only now I began to know thee. Let me now and henceforth forsake that which has tempted me. Let me now and henceforth do those things that I have perceived to be of thy will for me; by the grace of the Holy Ghost, and the intercession of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O GOD who art Love, grant to thy children who eat of thy bread, to bear one another's burdens in perfect good will, that thy peace, which passeth understanding, may keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

As We Go from the Lord's Table

AND now, O loving Father, we go forth, we leave this holy place, to do the work that thou hast taught us, to use the strength that thou hast given. Be thou with us henceforth in all thy love and power, and establish the thing that thou hast wrought in us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast given thine only Son to die for us, grant that we who have this day been united in the communion of his most precious body and blood, may be so cleansed from our past sins, and so strengthened to follow the example of his most holy life, that we may hereafter enjoy everlasting fellowship with thee in heaven, through Him who loved us and gave himself for us, Jesus Christ. Amen.

GRANT, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, that the designs of a new and better life, which by thy grace we have formed, may not pass away without effect. Incite and enable us by thy Holy Spirit to improve the time which thou shalt grant us; to avoid all evil thoughts, words, and actions, and to do all the duties which thou shalt set before us. Hear our prayer, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

—Dr. Samuel Johnson, A. D. 1782.

GO forth with us, O Lord, from this thy holy house; cast about us the fence which the evil one cannot pass, and clothe us in the armor which his darts cannot pierce. Send down upon us thy love and light and calm, wherein, as in a cloud, we may continually dwell and worship thee for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *—William E. Gladstone.*

Prayers for the Ministry

For Holy and Faithful Ministers

O THOU Great Shepherd and Bishop of our souls, send down, we beseech thee, upon thy ministers thy heavenly blessing. Give them the spirit of wis-

dom and holiness, courage, patience and charity, zeal and watchfulness, that they may faithfully rebuke vice, boldly preach and defend the faith, rightly and duly administer thy holy sacraments and intercede with thee acceptably for thy people. Support and comfort them under all sufferings and opposition for the cause of thy truth, and grant that after turning many to righteousness they may shine as stars, forever and ever; for thy tender mercy's sake. Amen.

For Great Gifts and Great Holiness

REMEMBER all them that do the Lord's work in the ministry and conduct of souls. Give them, we beseech thee, O Father, great gifts and great holiness, that wisely and charitably, diligently and zealously, prudently and acceptably, they may be guides to the blind, comforters to the sad and weary; that they may strengthen the weak and confirm the strong, separate the worthless from the precious, boldly rebuke sin, patiently suffer for the truth, and be exemplary in their lives; that in all their actions and sermons, in their discipline and ministrations, they may advance the good of souls, and the honor of our Lord Jesus Christ; grant this for the sake of thy Son our Lord. Amen.

—*Jeremy Taylor, A. D. 1613.*

For Righteousness and True Holiness

O LORD GOD of hosts, fill, we beseech thee, all those whom thou hast set as pastors over thy sheep, with righteousness and true holiness, that by their faith and piety they may overcome the wicked one, and save the Lord's flock from the danger of his assaults; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Gothic Missal, A. D. 1680.*

For Faithful and Able Men

O LORD, we beseech thee to raise up for the work of the ministry faithful and able men, counting it all joy to spend and be spent for the sake of thy

dear Son, and for the souls for which he shed his most precious blood upon the cross, and we pray thee to fit them for their holy function by thy bountiful grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

—Archbishop E. W. Benson, A. D. 1829.

For an Increase of Christ's Laborers

O BLESSED JESUS, Lord of the harvest, we pray thee send forth laborers into thy harvest, and by thy Holy Spirit stir the hearts of many that they may be ready to spend and be spent in thy service, and if it please thee, so to lose their life in this world, that they may gather fruit unto life eternal. O Lord, thou Lover of souls, hear us, we humbly beseech thee. Amen.

—Bishop Milman, A. D. 1816.

The Pastor's Prayers for Himself and His People

O LORD my God, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof; yet thou hast honored thy servant with appointing him to stand in thy house, and to serve at thy holy altar. To thee and to thy service I devote myself, soul, body, and spirit, with all their powers and faculties. Fill my memory with the words of thy Law; enlighten my understanding with the illumination of the Holy Spirit; and may all the wishes and desires of my will center in what thou hast commanded. And, to make me instrumental in promoting the salvation of the people now committed to my charge, grant that I may faithfully administer thy holy sacraments, and by my life and doctrine set forth thy true and lively word. Be ever with me in the performance of all the duties of my ministry: in prayer, to quicken my devotion; in praises, to heighten my love and gratitude; and in preaching, to give a readiness of thought and expression suitable to the clearness and excellency of thy

Holy Word. Grant this for the sake of Jesus Christ thy Son our Saviour. Amen.

MOST gracious God, the Giver of all good and perfect gifts, who of thy wise providence hast appointed divers orders in thy church; give thy grace, we beseech thee, to thy servant, to whom the charge of this congregation is now committed; and so replenish him with the truth of thy doctrine, and endue him with innocency of life, that he may faithfully serve before thee, to the glory of thy great name, and the benefit of thy holy church; through Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Redeemer. Amen.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, thou good Shepherd of the flock, mercifully hear our supplications, and grant unto this parish all things that are needful for its spiritual welfare. Unite the hearts of pastor and people in love of thee, and in zeal for thy work. Endue thy ministers with holiness and wisdom, strengthen and increase the faithful, visit and relieve the sick, convert the wicked, rouse the careless, recover the fallen, restore the penitent, remove all hindrances to the advancement of thy truth, and bring all to be of one heart and mind within the fold of thy holy church; to the honor and glory of thy name, who art with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

The Pastor's Prayer

THE good shepherd giveth his life for his sheep. O Sovereign Pastor! who gavest thy life for thy sheep, grant that I may never sacrifice thy flock to my own ease, convenience, profit, or pleasure. But that I may employ my time, my substance, my care, my labors, my prayers, for their welfare continually, and thus, at least, give my life for my sheep. I have given you an *Example,* that ye should do as I have done. O Lord, that I could say this to the flock over which thou hast made me overseer. That I could

say, Be ye devout, as ye see me devout; do ye forgive one another, as ye see me ready to forgive; despise the world as ye see me do it. Let me seriously consider that I am not only answerable for my own personal offenses; I sin every time I cause others to sin by my example. What reparation can be made, what answer can be given, when Christ requires our flock at our hand? Lord, suffer me not to follow my own will; reform me, that I may reform others; give me light to discover, and grace to amend, where I have done amiss. Amen.

The Preacher's Prayer

O GOD, the Fountain of all wisdom, I most humbly beseech thee to enlighten my mind, that I myself may see, and be able to teach others the wonders of thy Law; that I may learn from thee what I ought to think and speak concerning thee; and that whatever in thy Holy Word I shall profitably learn, I may indeed fulfill the same. Without which I shall disquiet myself in vain. Direct and bless all my labors, without which I shall disquiet myself in vain. Give me a discerning spirit, a sound judgment, and an honest and a religious heart, that in all my studies, my first aim may be, to set forth thy glory, by setting forward the salvation of men. And if, by my ministry, thy kingdom shall be enlarged, which God grant, let me, in all humility, ascribe the success not to myself, but unto thy good Spirit, which enables us both *to will* and *to do* what is acceptable to thee through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

I BESEECH thee, O God, for my brethren and for myself; that, in the exercise of our ministry, we may depend much upon thee; that we may learn from thee what we ought to speak concerning thee; that we may constantly speak the truth, boldly rebuke vice, and patiently suffer for righteousness' sake; that we may live and act as in the place of Christ, doing nothing unbecoming that character; and that we may pre-

serve an apostolical firmness of mind under the vexations and persecutions of this world. Amen.

The Preacher's Dedication

BRING into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. Take what I cannot give: my heart, body, thoughts, time, abilities, money, health, strength, nights, days, youth, age, and spend them in thy service, O my crucified Master, Redeemer, God. O, let not these be mere words! Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire in comparison of thee. My heart is athirst for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? —*F. W. Robertson* (*Memoir*).

For a Conference Session

O LORD of heaven and earth, who hast promised to reveal thy glory by Jesus Christ among all nations; remember, we beseech thee, thy holy church throughout the world. Especially do thou send now thy blessing upon this Conference assembled in thy name. Grant unto thy servants the spirit of power, and of love, and of a sound mind, that we may be wise in council and diligent in service, faithful stewards of the things belonging to thy kingdom, and worthy successors of the apostles whom our Lord sent forth to testify of him. Direct and govern us by thy Holy Spirit, preserving us from hasty judgment and vain dispute, inspiring us with hearty love and true devotion, and guiding us both to devise and do those things which shall be for the glory of Christ's name, for the welfare of his church, for the peace of all believers, for the spread of the gospel, and for the good of the whole world. Amen.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who by thy Holy Spirit didst enlighten the minds of thy servants the apostles and elders, met together at Jerusalem to take counsel for the peace and unity of thy church, and hast promised by thy Son Jesus Christ to be with

thy faithful ministers to the end of the world, grant us, we beseech thee, the same enlightening and life-giving Spirit, that those things which seem good unto the Holy Ghost may also seem good unto us. Let brotherly love continue, and in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than himself; save us from all uncharitable judging and rash speaking. Let the peace of God rule in our hearts, and the law of kindness dwell upon our lips; and of thy great mercy vouchsafe, we beseech thee, so to direct, sanctify, and govern us in all our doings, by the indwelling of thy good Spirit, that the gospel of Christ may be truly preached, devoutly received, and heartily obeyed, in all places, to the breaking down of the kingdom of sin and Satan, till at length the whole flock of thy dispersed sheep being gathered into thy fold, under the one Bishop and Shepherd of our souls, shall become partakers of everlasting life, through the merits and mediation of thy dear Son Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom be glory in the church, world without end. Amen.

Prayers for Church Workers

Prayer for Deaconesses

FATHER of mercies, we beseech thee to guide, protect, and encourage those consecrated women, who minister, clothed with sanctity and gentleness, in homes of want and misery and degradation. Enable them with pitiful hearts, inspired by the joy of service, to give counsel to the unwise, strength to the weak, succor to the tempted, courage to the despairing, and Christ to every soul. Help them to gather the little children into the tender Shepherd's care, and to lead the youth to the altars of God, and to open the gates of heaven for the dying. In moments of perplexity, discouragement, or peril, be thou their shield and support, and cause them ever to hear thy voice, "Lo, I am with you always." So prosper thou their beautiful and blessed work. In the name of our adorable Saviour, Christ. Amen. —*Dr. William V. Kelley.*

For any Society

O GOD, who knowest that we are not sufficient of ourselves to think anything as of ourselves, but that all our sufficiency is of thee, assist us with thy grace in all our work for others, direct us in it by thy wisdom, support us by thy power, that doing our duty diligently we may bring it to a good end, so that it may be profitable to our own souls and tend to the greater glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Epworth League or Young People's Societies

O ALMIGHTY and Eternal God, we humbly pray thee to vouchsafe thy blessing to this organization that all its members, being inspired with lively faith and love, may earnestly strive to promote the honor due to thy dear Son, the spread of his church and the gathering of wanderers into the fold; give us grace to fulfill in our lives what we profess with our lips; deliver us, O God, from false doctrine and slackness of living; and grant that persevering unto the end, we may obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Mothers' Meetings

O MOST blessed Lord and Saviour, who hast sanctified the name of mother by deigning to be born of human flesh, we come to thee in behalf of ——— for all the blessings of maternal sanctity, purity, and love. O enable them to feel as mothers for all the suffering children of guilt and sorrow, want and care. Bestow upon them, we most earnestly beseech thee, those special graces which become them, and adorn them as faithful wives and mothers, with gentle wisdom, a loving prudence, forbearance, tenderness, and sweetness, an untiring patience and forgiveness and willingness to suffer. Make them courageous in danger, skillful in difficulty, self-forgetting, self-sacrificing; so that they may engage in thy works of mercy and charity, with pure and clean hearts;

and so that all they do or say or think, for the relief of human sorrow and wretchedness, may be to please and glorify thee, who thyself didst take our infirmities and bear our sicknesses; and who now livest and reignest, in the unity of the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

For Church Brotherhoods

O LORD, our heavenly Father, we beseech thee to bless us, and all who belong to this Brotherhood. May its members be sheltered and protected evermore by thy fatherly love; and to its Associates vouchsafe the help and guidance of thy Holy Spirit. Help us all to bear one another's burdens, to live not for ourselves, but for others, as members of one family in Christ; wash us from our sins in his precious blood; make us holy by the indwelling of thy Holy Spirit, and bring us all at last to the joy of thy heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Ministry of the Choir

Before Service

O GOD, before whose throne in heaven the saints, standing on the sea of glass, sing the song of Moses and the Lamb; grant us so to sing thy praises here with the spirit, and with the understanding also, that we may be counted worthy to learn the new song, which none can learn save those that shall be redeemed from the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O GOD, our heavenly Father, who hast called us to the sacred ministry of praise in the service of thy church, make us ready now to worship thee in spirit and in truth. Teach us to understand and love thy holy service and help us to be reverent and attentive, guarding us from all wandering thoughts and

unseemly actions, and make all that we shall say and do acceptable unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O HEAVENLY FATHER, we are going into thy house. Cleanse our hearts and help us to worship thee in spirit and in truth. Keep our minds from idle and worldly thoughts, and grant that the prayers and praises of thy people may go up from thy holy temple on earth to thy mercy seat in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

After Service

GRANT, O Lord, that what we have sung with our lips, we may believe in our hearts; and what we believe in our hearts, we may practice in our lives; so that being doers of the word and not hearers only, we may obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS BEFORE THE OFFERING

O GOD, most merciful and gracious, of whose bounty we have all received, we beseech thee to accept this offering of thy people. Remember in thy love those who brought it, and those for whom it is given, and so follow it with thy blessing that it may promote peace and good-will among men, and advance the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

HEAVENLY GIVER, freely we have received, help us freely to give; may the spirit of love hallow all our gifts and make them fruitful in extending the reign of truth and love in human hearts and lives. Amen.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, prosper every good work undertaken by thy church according to thy will, and give unto all of us thy servants the spirit of Him who came not to be ministered

unto but to minister, and whose joy it was to do thy will in helping men. Amen.

FROM the cross we seem to hear thee say, "This I did for thee, what hast thou done for Me?" Receive our gifts to-day as tokens that we who give are ready to bear the cross for thee. Amen.

O MASTER, in this wondrous day, when millions purchase with their blood the things we hold most dear, can we dare be satisfied with this gift we offer thee? Help us too to wear the armor, the whole armor of our God, and go forth to win for all the world the things his love hath bought. Amen.

Dean L. J. Birney.

AS thou didst take the loaves and by thy love and power make them to feed the famished multitude, so take our gifts to-day and bring them, through thy power and love, to feed the hungry souls of men. Amen.

LORD, as to-day we press our gifts into thy hand, give us to see the scar it bears, and to know that no less gift than life itself can ever heal thy wounds, nor the wounds of the least of these. Amen.

WE lift our hearts in gratitude for noble souls who have learned life's highest values, whose gifts of gold and service have bought for the world the things most precious. Bless us this day as we follow in their footsteps, and accept thou our offerings of our substance and our souls. Amen.

For the Ministry of Giving

For a Right Use of Wealth

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who for our sakes didst become poor, we pray thee to protect them that are rich in this world, that they may be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in thee, the

living God, who givest us richly all things to enjoy. Grant them grace so to use their wealth that they may do good, and be rich in good works, ready to distribute and willing to communicate; laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*1 Timothy 6. 17; Saint Paul, A. D. 65.*

ALMIGHTY GOD, from whom all good things do come; give thy grace, we humbly beseech thee, to those whom thou hast intrusted with riches, that they as faithful stewards may dispense them in the service of thy kingdom for the increase thereof; to the honor and praise of Him who, though he was rich, yet for our sakes became poor, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O LORD, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth, and that it is more blessed to give than to receive, pour into the hearts of all thy people that most excellent gift of charity, and incline them to liberal offerings for the extension of thy church and the salvation of mankind; and, thus bringing forth the fruit of good works, may they by thee be plenteously rewarded, and be made partakers of thy heavenly treasure; through the merits of Jesus Christ, our most blessed Lord and Saviour. Amen.

For the Grace of Giving

LORD of the great sacrifice, restrain our eagerness for the things that are seen. Thy cross is our rebuke. Increase our spending for the things eternal. Thy cross our inspiration. Lord of the sinless life, our hope is to become like thee. Fulfill our hearts in service, that our hope be not in vain. Lord of the holiest joy—the joy of boundless giving—teach us thy grace of losing, that our joy may indeed be full. The world counteth all things lost if it gain not the

things it may reckon. Help us to count all things but loss, to win thee, the wealth unmeasured. Amen.

—*Dean Birney.*

For the Ministry of the Word

BLESSED LORD, who hast caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast, the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

SHOW the light of thy countenance upon us, O Lord, that the going forth of thy Word may give light and understanding to nourish the hearts of the simple; that translators, revisers and those who publish and distribute thy Word may be given grace to sow thy good seed among all peoples to the glory of thy Holy Name. Amen.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, who hast sent this Book to be the revelation of thy great love to man, and of thy power and will to save him, grant that our study of it may not be made vain by the callousness or carelessness of our hearts, but that by it we may be confirmed in penitence, lifted to hope, made strong for service and above all, filled with the true knowledge of thee and of thy Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

For Reverence for God's Word

BLESSED LORD, by whose providence all Holy Scriptures were written and preserved for our instruction, give us grace to study them this and every day, with patience and love. Strengthen our souls with the fullness of their divine teaching. Keep from us all pride and irreverence. Guide us in the deep things of thy heavenly wisdom, and of thy great mercy lead us by thy Word unto everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

O LORD, thy Word is before us, give us a meek, and reverent, and teachable mind, whilst we read and study it. Open to us its sacred truths, and enable us to receive it, not as the word of men, but as the Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever. Be thou, O Blessed Spirit, our teacher. Enlighten our minds and prepare our hearts. Shine, O Lord, upon thine own sacred page, and make it clear to us. What we see not show us, and where we are wrong correct us. Bring home some portion to our soul, and thus make us wise unto salvation; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who art the Truth Incarnate, and the Teacher of the faithful, let thy Spirit overshadow us in reading thy Word, and conform our thoughts to thy revelation, that, learning of thee with honest hearts, we may be rooted and built up in thee, who livest and reignest with the Father, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

GIVE us a pure judgment and a true understanding of thy Word, O Lord, that we be not deceived and carried away by any error; but grant that we may grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayers for Youth and Sunday School

O GRACIOUS SAVIOUR, who lovedst little children and didst take them into thy holy arms and bless them, bless now, we pray thee, the children of this school. May they grow up in thy fear and love, may they live ever as members of Christ, children of God, and heirs of heaven. May they give their hearts to thee, and remember their Creator in the days of their youth; that so they may be thine forever, and at length enter the heavenly home which thou hast purchased for them; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God for evermore. Amen.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, who art more willing to give thy Holy Spirit to them that ask thee than earthly parents are to give good gifts to their children, send down upon us the healthful Spirit of thy grace. Prosper, we humbly beseech thee, all the means employed to train up these children in thy fear and service. Dispose them from the heart to believe in thee, the Lord their God, and to worship and serve thee, their Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. Keep them from all the dangers and temptations of this evil world, and sanctify them wholly in their souls and bodies. May they never be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified, and manfully to fight under his banner, against sin, the world, and the devil, and to continue his faithful soldiers and servants unto their life's end; through the same, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALMIGHTY God, be pleased, we humbly beseech thee, to move the hearts of many of thy children to seek the work of ministering to thee in holy things. We pray that some may be found among our own number eager to carry the blessed tidings of thy love to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. Clothe thou them now in the days of their youth with thy whole armor. Make them children of the light and of the day. And, when the time shall come for them to go forth bearing the shield of faith and the sword of the Spirit, do thou go with them, heavenly Father, that they may fight the good fight, and be proved the faithful of thy Christ. We ask it in his name and for his sake. Amen.

For Sunday School Teachers

MOST merciful God, who art the fountain of all grace, grant, we beseech thee, to the teachers in this school thy gifts of wisdom, gentleness, and patience. May they find their work a joy, and count all labor light that is undertaken out of love toward

thee. Guard them from the temptation to a careless and half-hearted service. May a consciousness of the solemn responsibility which is theirs be always present with them. Bless their every word to the good of the pupils committed to their care; and may thy Holy Spirit so enforce the teaching given by them that, at the last, the reward which thou hast promised those who turn many to righteousness may be theirs. All which we ask through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Prayer of a Sunday School Teacher

ALMIGHTY GOD, our Father and Teacher, grant to us that we may be taught of thee. Teach us to be truly humble in our search for thy truth, so that our eyes may be opened to behold wondrous things out of thy law. Give us a single-hearted purpose to make the children whom we are called to teach from thy Holy Word completely thy children in purity and good works. Grant us understanding hearts to read our children's characters and needs, and to lead them with wisdom and gentleness into the paths of righteousness and peace. Strengthen our own souls with a holy strength to resist the evil and to show forth in our lives the good, and so fill us with a love of the truth and enlighten our minds with the light of the everlasting gospel, that we may be worthy fellow workers with thy dear Son in the upbuilding of his kingdom. We ask all in his name. Amen.

Prayers for Bible Classes

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast given us thy holy Word to be a light unto our path amid the dimness of this present life, enable us, we beseech thee, so faithfully to obey thy heavenly guidance that our feet may never wander from the way of peace. Open our eyes to behold wonderful things out of thy law; quicken our consciences that we may know our need of thy forgiveness; comfort our souls with the assurance of thy continual pity, and help us to find in thee the satisfaction of our hearts' desire. Give us grace

to study whatsoever hath been written of thee by holy men of old, with reverence, docility, and trust. Guard us from self-will, slowness of heart, and vanity of mind. Feed us upon the bread of life; give us to drink of the water of life freely. And when at last the end cometh and all Scripture shall have been fulfilled, be pleased to minister unto us an entrance into the blessed company of those who see eye to eye and know even as also they are known. Grant this, we beseech thee, most merciful Father, for the love of thy dear Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who didst send from the Father the Comforter, even the Spirit of Truth, grant that he may enlighten our minds with the teaching of thy truth, and sanctify our hearts with the power of thy grace, so that evermore abiding in thee we may be found steadfast in faith and holy in life, being conformed unto thine image. Amen.

O HOLY and Eternal Jesus, who hast begotten us by thy Word, renewed us by thy Spirit, and fed us by the daily ministry of thy Word, still go on to build us up to life eternal. Let thy Holy Spirit be present with us and rest upon us in the reading and studying of thy sacred Word, that we may do it humbly, reverently, without prejudice, with minds ready and desirous to learn and to obey, that we may be readily furnished to every good work, and may practice all thy holy laws and commandments, to the glory of thy name, whom with the Father and the Holy Ghost, we worship now and ever. Amen.

Prayers for Missions

O LORD, who, though thou wast rich, yet for our sakes didst become poor, and hast promised in thy gospel that whatsoever is done unto the least of thy brethren, thou wilt receive as done unto thee; give us grace, we humbly beseech thee, to be ever willing and ready to minister, as thou enablest us, to the necessities of our fellow creatures, and to ex-

tend the blessings of thy kingdom over all the world, to thy praise and glory, who art God over all, blessed forever. Amen. —*Saint Augustine, A. D. 354.*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who desirest not the death, but always the life of sinners, mercifully receive our prayer, and deliver the heathen from idolatry, and gather them into thy holy church, to the praise and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —*Gelasian Sacramentary, A. D. 494.*

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, the Brightness of faithful souls, fill the world with thy glory, we pray thee, and show thyself, by the radiance of thy light, to all the nations of the world, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. —*Gregorian Sacramentary, A. D. 590.*

O THOU who art the Light and the Life of the world, have compassion, we pray thee, upon those who are sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death; and as thou didst at the first, by the preaching of thine apostles, cause the light of thy gospel to shine throughout the world, be pleased to make thy ways known upon earth, thy saving health unto all nations. Bless thy servants who have gone into distant lands to proclaim the message of salvation. Endue them with thy Holy Spirit, enrich them with thy heavenly grace, prosper them in all their labors, and give them souls as their reward. And, O thou Lord of the harvest! we pray thee to send forth more laborers into thy harvest. May they both sow the seed and reap the fruit of their labors! And give us grace to do our part in the great field of this world in sowing and in reaping, through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

O GOD, who hast made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on the face of the whole earth, and didst send thy blessed Son to preach peace to them that are far off, and to them that are nigh, grant that all the peoples of the world may feel after thee

and find thee; and hasten, O Lord, the fulfillment of thy promise to pour out thy Spirit upon all flesh; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*G. Cotton, Bishop of Calcutta, A. D. 1813.*

ALMIGHTY GOD, who, by thy Son Jesus Christ, didst give commandment to the holy apostles that they should go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, grant to us whom thou hast called into thy church a ready will to obey thy Word, and fill us with a hearty desire to make thy way known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations. Look with compassion upon the heathen that have not known thee, and on the multitudes in our own land that are scattered abroad as sheep having no shepherd. O heavenly Father, Lord of the harvest, have respect, we beseech thee, to our prayers, and send forth laborers into thine harvest. Fit and prepare them by thy grace for the work of thy ministry; give them the spirit of power, and of love, and of a sound mind; strengthen them to endure hardness, and grant that both by their life and doctrine they may show forth thy glory, and set forward the salvation of all men; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O LORD, who didst come to seek and to save the lost, and to whom all power is given in heaven and in earth; hear, we beseech thee, the prayers of thy church for those who, at thy command, go forth to preach the gospel to every creature. Preserve them from all dangers to which they may be exposed, from perils by land and perils by water, from the deadly pestilence, from the violence of the persecutor, from doubt and impatience, from discouragement and discord, and from all the devices of the powers of darkness. And while they plant and water, send thou, O Lord, the increase; gather in the multitude of the heathen, convert in Christian lands such as neglect so great salvation, that thy name may be glorified, and thy kingdom come, O gracious Saviour of the world, to whom with the Father and the Holy Ghost be honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, we humbly beseech thee to pour out thy Holy Spirit upon all our missionaries at home and abroad, and to crown their labors with success in the gathering of souls into thy kingdom. Strengthen them, we pray thee, with thy good Spirit, and comfort them with a sense of thy presence, that they may preach and teach to the upbuilding of thy kingdom and the salvation of souls. Make us to realize that they are doing our work and grant us grace to support them out of the wealth of good things which thou hast bestowed upon us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O GOD, who didst send the Holy Spirit upon the apostles, to teach them and lead them into all truth, that they might go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, pour out, we beseech thee, the same Holy Spirit upon thy church, that it may send forth the good tidings of great joy unto all people. Hasten thy work, O God; raise up laborers, and strengthen their hands, that they may tell of salvation unto the ends of the world. Bless with the mighty aid of thy Holy Spirit those who now work to the glory of thy name in distant lands. Give them faithfulness and courage, and take out of their way all hindrances. Forward the time, O God, for the coming of thy kingdom, and for the gathering in of all nations unto thee. And while we pray for the outward growth of thy kingdom in the world, we pray also for its inward growth in the hearts of men. And especially, O Lord, for our own church and country, we pray that true religion may abound unto all righteousness and peace; through thy only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

For Home Missions

ALMIGHTY GOD, by whose heavenly inspiration we think those things that are right, even as by thy merciful guidance we perform the same, quicken in the hearts of thy servants the pastors of thy flock, and the people committed to their charge, such a sense

of their duty to all who are ignorant, erring, and uncared-for in this land as shall move them to sacrifice and service in their behalf, without stint and without delay. Make us to see that souls are perishing for lack of the knowledge of Jesus Christ and him crucified, and since thou hast intrusted to us the knowledge of thy truth and the gifts of thy bounty, help us to use them as good stewards, so that thy Word may be proclaimed and thy kingdom enlarged, to the glory of thy name and the salvation of men; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O GOD, the strength of all those who put their trust in thee; send thy blessing upon thy servants who work among the poor and needy. Fill their hearts with a courage which never falters, a patience which never wearies, and a love which never fails. Give them the constant vision of thy glorious kingdom, and make them ever mindful of the promise of thy dear Son: Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. All which we ask through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Missionary Societies and Workers

LORD, we pray thee to bless the work of all missionary societies. Teach us to realize that the command to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature is binding in measure to each individual. Show us what we ought to do. Increase our zeal, our interest, our service, our supplications. May we help in sending others, if we cannot go ourselves, by our prayers and offering; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Church Missionary Society, A. D. 1799.*

For Direction by the Holy Spirit (A Missionary's Prayer)

ALMIGHTY GOD, who by the power of thy Holy Spirit didst inspire the first disciples with missionary zeal for the conversion of the world, grant that thy Spirit may so inspire us that we may be ready

to spend and be spent in thy service, and may willingly lose our lives in this world in order that we may gather fruit unto life eternal. Show to each of thy children in what way thou wouldst have them labor, whether at home or abroad, for the establishment of thy kingdom amongst the heathen, and enable us all with cheerful readiness to carry out thy will; we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen. —*Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, A. D. 1701.*

O GOD, we pray thee at this time to bless all missionary societies. Prosper the work of their committees. Give to the members the spirit of faith, patience, and perseverance. May offerings of money and of service abound as an encouragement to unceasing prayer, and hasten the time when the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth, as the waters cover the sea; for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

For Missionaries and Their Work

O GOD of all the ends of the earth, and of all its families, we ask thee for the missionary work of thy church in foreign and distant lands. We commit to thee thy missionary servants in every land. Strengthen them continually with the Holy Spirit the Comforter, and if it please thee, keep them in outward health and safety. Prosper the work of their hands, to thy glory, and the salvation of all men, and the hastening of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; for his name's sake we ask it. Amen.

MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, we beseech thee to send upon thy servants who preach the gospel to those in darkness, thy heavenly blessing. Give them courage, and faith, and health, and strength in their difficult work. May thy light shine through them into dark and ignorant lives, and may the knowledge of thy dear Son be brought to many who know him not; and this we ask for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

—*Church Missionary Society, A. D. 1799.*

MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, we beseech thee to send thy heavenly blessing upon thy servants, the ministers and teachers of thy church; that they may be clothed with righteousness, and that thy word spoken by their mouth may have such success that it may never be spoken in vain. Grant also to thy children scattered abroad, grace to hear and receive what they shall deliver out of thy Holy Word, as the means of salvation, that all may receive the crown of everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Book of Common Prayer, A. D. 1552, adapted.*

For Missionary Students

WE pray thee, O heavenly Father and Lord of the harvest, that thou wilt send forth additional laborers into thy harvest. Prosper, we beseech thee, all efforts that are made to train and prepare those whom thou dost call to devote their lives to the service of thy church abroad. We pray especially for all missionary colleges at home and abroad. Bless those who teach therein, and grant that their labors may abound to thy honor and glory. Purify and enlighten the students. Put far from them all selfish ambitions and aims; fill them with wisdom and understanding, that they may become fit to act as thy messengers, and to accomplish the work to which thou hast called them. We ask in the name of Jesus Christ, thy Son and Saviour. Amen.

—*Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, A. D. 1701.*

O LORD, Jesus Christ, who didst charge thine apostles that they should preach the gospel to every nation, prosper, we pray thee, all missions, both at home and abroad. Give them all things needful for their work, making them to be centers of spiritual life, to the quickening of many souls, and the glory of thy holy name. Support, guide, and bless all thy servants who are called to labor in those parts of thy vineyard, give them grace to witness to the faith, endue them with burning zeal and love, make them patient under all disappointments, and meekly sub-

missive under all persecutions, that they may turn many to righteousness, and may themselves win a crown of everlasting glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Women's Work among Women and Children

GRACIOUS LORD, who wast born of a woman, who didst accept the ministry of women, and who didst take into thine arms little children to bless them, be present, we pray thee, with the women who now minister for thee to their sisters in heathen and Moslem countries; and be with all those to whom thou hast given the care of children to be brought up in thy fear and love. By means of these thy servants raise the women of these lands to know and enjoy the blessing and honor that thou didst purpose for women, and so give thy Word that great may be the company of the women who labor in the Lord, and carry into darkened homes the light of thy Presence and the joy of thy peace; hear us for thy name's sake. Amen.

—*Church Missionary Society, A. D. 1799.*

For Medical Missions

MERCIFUL SAVIOUR, who of old time didst have compassion on the multitudes, give to us and to all thy people the same spirit of love. Teach us to pity and care for all who in heathen and Moslem lands are living without thee. There are many who are sick and suffering, but have none to heal them. Send forth more of thy servants to help them. Give skill of hand and eye, strength of patience and heart, and, above all things, thine own love to every doctor, nurse, and assistant engaged in medical missions. Bless all the means taken to cure or relieve the sufferers. May the heavenly medicine of thy gospel bring life and health to many souls. These and all other mercies, we beseech thee to bestow on them and those who minister to them, according to thy promises and for thy holy name's sake. Amen.

—*Church Missionary Society, A. D. 1799.*

For Schools and Colleges

THOU only wise God, our Saviour, with whom are all the treasures of heavenly understanding, illuminate all schools and colleges and universities with the light that cometh from above; that those who teach may be taught of thee, and those who learn may be led by thy Spirit; and grant that by the increase of knowledge thy truth may be confirmed, and thy glory manifested; through Jesus Christ, thy Living Word. Amen.

O FATHER of Lights and Fountain of all knowledge; bless, we beseech thee, all teachers and institutions of learning, and grant that from them the light of truth may shine with growing brightness on all men, so that wisdom and knowledge may be the stability of our times, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, whose Son came into the world to destroy the power of darkness, and make us the children of light, illumine our minds, we beseech thee, with the full and abiding knowledge of Christ and his gospel. Send thy favor upon all efforts to train the young in intelligence, virtue, and piety. Bless all schools and colleges of sound learning and Christian education, and make them instruments in thy hand of great good to the world. Endue the officers and teachers with a true sense of their high stewardship, and enlarge the hearts of the people to a loyal support of good institutions of learning, where the precepts of the gospel are honored as the supreme wisdom. Enlighten the minds, purify the hearts and lives of the students, so that they may go forth a noble host, made ready and consecrated for large and fruitful work. Bless everywhere those who are striving for a Christian education amid the hindrances of poverty and friendlessness; and raise up friends, and strengthen wise agencies, to prosper their endeavors. Pour out thy Spirit from on high, and sanctify all minds and hearts for thine acceptable

service here and thy blessed kingdom hereafter. All which we ask in the name of Him who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Illumination

SHINE into our hearts, O loving Master, by the pure light of the knowledge of thyself, and open the eyes of our mind to the contemplation of thy teaching, and put into us the fear of thy blessed commandments, that, trampling down all that is worldly, we may follow a spiritual life, thinking and doing all things according to thy good pleasure. For thou art our sanctification, and our illumination, and to thee we render glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

—*Eastern Church Liturgy; Daybreak Office, Third Century.*

AND now, we beseech thee, Lord Jesus, that to whom thou dost vouchsafe sweet draughts of the words of thy knowledge, thou wilt also, of thy goodness, grant that we may, in due time, come to thee, the fountain of all wisdom, and ever stand before thy face; for thy sake. Amen. —*Venerable Bede, A. D. 673.*

For Courage and Insight

O THOU who art the Truth and Teacher of all who come unto thee for light and guidance, in times of doubts and questionings, when our belief is perplexed by new learning, new teaching, new thought, when our faith is strained by creeds, by doctrines, by mysteries beyond our understanding, give us the faithfulness of learners and the courage of believers in thee; give us boldness to examine, and faith to trust all truth; patience and insight to master difficulties; stability to hold fast our traditions with enlightened interpretations, to admit all fresh truth made known to us, and in times of trouble to grasp new knowledge and to combine it loyally and honestly with the old. Save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord. Amen.

LORD, give us a heart to turn all knowledge to thy glory, and not to our own. Keep us from being deluded with the lights of vain philosophies; keep us from the pride of human reason; let us not think our own thoughts, nor dream our own imaginations, but in all things acting under the good guidance of the Holy Spirit, may we live in all simplicity, humility, and singleness of heart unto the Lord. Amen.

—*Henry Kirke White, A. D. 1785.*

"Send Forth Thy Truth"

ALMIGHTY GOD, we invoke thee, the Fountain of everlasting Light, and entreat thee to send forth thy truth into our hearts, and to pour upon us the glory of thy brightness, through Christ our Lord. Amen. —*Sarum Breviary, A. D. 1085.*

Prayer for Light

O LORD, who art the Light, the Way, the Truth, the Life; in whom there is no darkness, error, vanity, nor death; the Light, without which there is darkness; the Way, without which there is wandering; the Truth, without which there is error; the Life, without which there is death: say, Lord, "Let there be light," and I shall see light, and eschew darkness; I shall see the way, and avoid wandering; I shall see the truth, and shun error; I shall see life, and escape death: illuminate, O illuminate my blind soul, which sitteth in darkness and the shadow of death; and direct my feet in the way of peace.

—*Saint Augustine, A. D. 354–403.*

HEAR us, O never-failing Light, Lord our God, the Fountain of light, the Light of thine Angels, Principalities, Powers, and of all intelligent beings; who hast created the light of thy Saints. May our souls be lamps of thine, kindled and illuminated by thee. May they shine and burn with the truth, and never go out in darkness and ashes. May the gloom of sins be cleared away, and the light of perpetual faith abide within us. Amen. —*Mozarabic, before A. D. 700.*

"In Thy Light May We See Light"

O GOD, by whom the meek are guided in judgment, and light riseth up in darkness for the godly; grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what thou wouldest have us to do; that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in thy light we may see light, and in thy straight path may not stumble, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —*William Bright.*

Collect

ALMIGHTY GOD, we invoke thee, the fountain of everlasting Light, and entreat thee to send forth thy truth into our hearts, and to pour upon us the glory of thy brightness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —*Sarum Breviary, A. D. 1085.*

For Schools and Schoolchildren

GRANT, we beseech thee, O Lord Jesus, that all those in our schools may seek to find out what thou wouldest have them to do in life, and earnestly strive to follow thee, who in thy boyhood didst choose to do thy Father's business; for thy name's sake. Amen.

A Teacher's Prayer for Strength

GUIDE and strengthen and enkindle me, O Lord, inspire me with thy zeal, and guide me with wisdom, that thy name may be known to those committed to my care, and that they may be made and kept always thine. O Lord, save me from idle words, and grant that my heart may be truly cleansed and filled with thy Holy Spirit, and that I may arise to serve thee, and lie down in entire confidence in thee, and submission to thy will, ready for life or for death. Let me live for the day, not overcharged with worldly cares, but feeling that my treasure is not here. What is it to live unto God? May God open my eyes to see him by faith, in and through his Son Jesus Christ: may he draw me to him, and keep me with him, making his will my will, his love my love, his strength my

strength: and may he make me feel that pretended strength, not derived from him, is no strength, but the worst weakness. May his strength be perfected in my weakness. —*Dr. Arnold of Rugby.*

The Student's Prayer

O THOU True Fountain of Light and Wisdom, vouchsafe to infuse into my understanding some ray of thy brightness, thereby removing that twofold darkness under which I was born, of sin and ignorance. Thou that makest the tongues of infants eloquent, instruct, I pray thee, my tongue likewise; and pour upon my lips the grace of thy benediction. Give me quickness to comprehend and memory to retain; give me happiness in expounding and a facility in learning, and copious eloquence in speaking. Prepare my entrance on the road of science, direct me in my journey, and bring me safely to the end of it, even happiness and glory, in thine eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Thomas Aquinas, 1224-1274. His customary prayer before study.*

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, without whose help labor is useless, without whose light search is vain, invigorate my studies, and direct my inquiries, that I may, by due diligence and right discernment, establish myself and others in thy holy faith. Take not, O Lord, thy Holy Spirit from me; let not evil thoughts have dominion in my mind. Let me not linger in ignorance, but enlighten and support me, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Samuel Johnson.*

A Student's Surrender

I TAKE God the Father to be my God! I take God the Son to be my Saviour; I take God the Holy Ghost to be my Sanctifier; I take the Word of God to be my rule; I take the people of God to be my people; I likewise dedicate my whole self to the Lord; and I do this deliberately, sincerely, freely, and forever. —*Bishop John H. Vincent.*

Prayers for a Service in School or College

O LORD our heavenly Father, by whose Spirit man is taught knowledge, who givest wisdom to all that ask thee; grant thy blessing, we beseech thee, to all who serve thee here, whether as teachers or learners, and help us in the work which thou hast given us to do. Enable us to labor diligently and faithfully, not with eye-service, but with singleness of heart, remembering that without thee we can do nothing, and that in thy fear is the beginning of wisdom. May we set thy will ever before us, and do that which is well-pleasing in thy sight, that so our work here may count for good to others, both now and in the days to come. Open thou our eyes to know thy marvelous works, to search our own spirits, and to understand the wondrous things of thy law. Of thy great goodness pour into our hearts the excellent gift of charity, and grant that in meekness and truth and purity we may glorify thee, the Father of lights, in the spirit of thy dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O ETERNAL and Almighty God, the only Giver of all true prosperity, we humbly beseech thee to continue thine effectual blessing on this institution, which has been founded in thy name for the training of youth in useful knowledge, virtue, and religion. Without thee vain is the help of man; without thee the best efforts of human labor and wisdom must end in disappointment. Vouchsafe thy favor to us who are teachers here, and endow us all with patient zeal, persevering love, and energetic devotion to those placed under our care. Continue to fill this institution with students of docility and talent, and grant them the spirit of industry, order, and kindness toward each other. Enlighten the minds of us all, and enable us to increase daily in wisdom, knowledge, thoughtfulness, self-control, and all virtue; and let the blessed influence of thy Holy Spirit continually comfort and direct us, so that this institution may prove a lasting source of good throughout all successive generations, to the enlargement of thy church, the support and

adornment of the commonwealth, and the praise and honor of thy holy name; all of which we humbly ask for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Saviour and Redeemer. Amen.

GIVE thy blessing, we pray thee, to this our daily work, that we may do it in faith and heartily as to the Lord, and not unto men. All our powers of body and mind are thine, and we would fain devote them to thy service. Sanctify them and the work in which they are engaged; let us not be slothful, but fervent in spirit, and do thou, O Lord, so bless our efforts that they may bring forth in us the fruits of true wisdom. Strengthen the faculties of our minds and dispose us to exert them, but let us always remember to exert them for thy glory, and for the furtherance of thy kingdom, and save us from all pride, and vanity, and reliance upon our own power or wisdom. Give us this day thy Holy Spirit, that we may be thine in body and spirit, in all our work and all our refreshments, through Jesus Christ thy Son, our Lord. Amen. —*Dr. Arnold of Rugby* (*Memoirs*).

Prayers for the Opening or Dedication of a College

OUR FATHER, who dost hold in thy wise care all the affairs of men, we thank thee for the piety and generous mind of those who laid the foundations of this college; we thank thee for the heritage they left to us, and for all benefactions and benefits received from their successors. We bless thee for all that trustees, teachers, patrons, and students of many years have given to make fair the name of alma mater; for the honor that graduates have won her by their worth and service, and for saving power given her out of the lives of her sons. Amen.

We render thee hearty thanksgiving that it is granted us to return in health and courage to these halls; for joy and pleasure, for work and fellowship,

for vision of things earthly and of things unseen, for friendship and love, for uplifting ideals, for sustaining religion; for all these we give thee honor and blessing. Amen.

Continue thy favoring care to this college. Here may true learning abound, patient zeal for study; here may men come to know thee in science and art, in nature and philosophy; here may they find ideals for manly living, full of hope, energy, and kindness; here may they learn the happiness that is in work well done and in recreation wisely taken. To those, with us only a little time ago, who turn to us this day in longing thought, grant thine aid. Vouchsafe to them success unbounded. Help us to make fully welcome those who come among us this day for the first time; grant them health and happiness and success. Amen.

Behold us, Father, waiting in thy presence here, asking thy blessing upon us and our concerns; we are gathered out of many families; we are come through the loving care and the sacrifices of some to whom we are dear, and who are very precious in our memory. To those of our affection, parents and kindred, whose hearts are in our hearts, grant, Lord, thy richest benedictions. And help us to uncover to them our love in kindly word and deed, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days. Amen.

Direct us, Lord, in all our doings by thy most gracious favor, and grant us thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life. Amen.

ALMIGHTY GOD, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we thy servants implore thy blessing upon this university. Give the spirit of wisdom to all those to whom thou hast given the authority of government. Let the students grow in grace day by day; enlighten their minds, purify their hearts and sanctify their wills. Bless all who have contributed to this institution, and who by their benefactions have made possible the erection of this (———) which we now grate-

fully dedicate to thy service, and raise up to the university, we humbly pray thee, a never-failing succession of benefactors, whose names may be perpetuated through all generations, as of blessed memory, and their good deeds be accepted through the sole merits of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR SPECIAL SEASONS OF THE CHRISTIAN YEAR

Advent

O ALMIGHTY FATHER, Source of all being, Fountain of light and salvation, we adore thy infinite goodness in sending thy only begotten Son into the world, that, believing in him, we may not perish, but have everlasting life; and we pray thee that, through the power and grace of his first advent to save the world, we may be made ready to meet him at his second advent to judge the world; through the same thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee, grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit ever, one God, world without end. Amen.

Christmas

LORD JESUS, for whose sake all motherhood is holy, and since whose coming the little children are first in the kingdom of thy Father, come to every household and family that loves thee on this Christmas Eve. Speak comforting things to the heart of every mother, and take the little children into thine arms, O Christ. Let every Christmas gift be a reminder of thee, and let thy Name be spoken softly in every home. Lord Jesus, hear; Lord Jesus, come; and light this home with Christmas love. Amen.

O GOD, who hast made this most sacred night to shine with the illumination of the True Light, grant, we beseech thee, that, as we have known the mystery of that Light upon earth, we may also perfectly enjoy it in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —*Gelasian Sacramentary, A. D. 494.*

Christmas Day

GLORY be to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men: for unto us is born this day a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. We praise thee, we bless thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks unto thee, for this greatest of thy mercies, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son Jesus Christ, O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, who wast made man to take away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us by turning us from our iniquities. Thou who wast manifested to destroy the works of the devil, have mercy upon us by enabling us to renounce and forsake them. Thou who art the great Advocate with the Father, receive our prayer, we humbly beseech thee. Amen. —*Bishop Ken, A. D. 1637.*

O ALMIGHTY GOD, who by the birth of thy holy Child Jesus hast given us a great Light to dawn upon our darkness, grant, we pray thee, that in his light we may see light to the end of our days; and bestow upon us, we beseech thee, that most excellent Christmas gift of charity to all men, that so, the likeness of thy Son may be formed in us, and that we may have the ever-brightening hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FATHER in heaven, whose mercy we praise in the yearly remembrance of the birth of thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; grant that as we welcome our Redeemer, his presence may shed abroad, in our hearts and in our homes, the light of heavenly peace and joy. Make known unto all men, by thy Word and Spirit, the gospel of his blessed incarnation, whereby

thou hast clearly revealed thy love for the world. And help us so to celebrate this day, in humility and gratitude, in unselfish love and cheerful service, that our keeping of Christmas may be a blessing to our souls, a memorial of Christ, a benefit to our fellow men, and a thanksgiving unto thee for thine unspeakable gift of the Saviour. Amen.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, who by the birth of thy Holy One into the world didst give thy true light to dawn upon our darkness; grant that as thou hast given us to believe in the mystery of his incarnation, and hast made us partakers of the divine nature, so in the world to come we may ever abide with him, in the glory of his kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The New Year

O THOU who art ever the same, grant us so to pass through the coming year with faithful hearts, that we may be able in all things to please thy loving eyes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Mozarabic Liturgy, before A. D. 700.*

MY FATHER, may I experience the great renewal to-day! May old duties be new! May my sympathies be new! May my aspirations be new! May I have a new heaven and a new earth!

O GOD, our Father; in the name of Jesus Christ thy Son, our Saviour; under the leading of thy Holy Spirit, our Guide and Comforter, we come to thee in prayer. We come on this new day of the New Year, to give thee thanks for all thy goodness to us through all the years we have lived on the earth; for life in this pleasant world; for home and friends; for health and strength of body; for all opportunities of labor and improvement; for liberty, civil and religious; but more than all else for thy church, thy Word, thy ministry, thy grace; for the greatness of thy love set forth in the gift of thy Son Jesus Christ for our salva-

tion; for the coming of thy Holy Spirit to work within us thy holy will; and for all the wise and gentle leadings of thy providence by which we have been brought to know more and more of the mysteries and blessedness of thy grace. With this new year while we give thee thanks for all these thy loving gifts to us, we confess our sins, we ask forgiveness, we surrender our lives to thee, and ask for thy continued help through all the days of this year and through all the years of life. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all always. Amen.

MOST gracious God, who hast been infinitely merciful to us, not only in the year past, but through all the years of our life, be pleased to accept our most unfeigned thanks for thine innumerable blessings to us, graciously pardoning the manifold sins and infirmities of our life past, and bountifully bestowing upon us all those graces and virtues which may render us acceptable to thee. And, every year which thou shalt be pleased to add to our lives, add also, we humbly implore thee, more strength to our faith, more ardor to our love, and a greater perfection to our obedience; and grant that, in a humble sincerity and constant perseverance, we may serve thee most faithfully the remainder of our lives, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen. —*Charles How, 1661–1745.*

Good Friday

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who in the days of thy humiliation wast despised and rejected of men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, who wast wounded for our transgressions, and bruised for our iniquities, who wast lifted up upon the cross, that whosoever believeth on thee should not perish, but have everlasting life, grant that we may be enabled to look with humble hope to that cross for eternal salvation; that through thy most precious blood we may be washed from our sins, and at the hour of death and in the Day of Judgment be delivered from the condemnation of the law, and be received amongst the

blessed in thy everlasting kingdom, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who as on this day didst suffer death upon the cross for us, forgive us all our sins, cleanse and make us pure. O thou, who didst die that we might live, let us not grieve thee by our sins, but soften our hard hearts, and bend our wills, that we may hear thy voice and live. O thou, who for us didst bear bitter sufferings, and dost not send us more than we are able to bear, give us help and strength to bear meekly and patiently all our troubles, and forgive us as we hope to be forgiven. Give us grace and strength so to live in this world, that at last we may dwell in that home which thou by thy death didst win for us; for thine own name's sake. Amen.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, our merciful and loving Saviour, who didst bear thy cross for us, help us to take up our cross daily and follow thee. O thou who wast lifted up for us, draw us unto thee, that we may love thee better for thy great love to us. Lord, we love thee; help thou our want of love. O heavenly Father, make us to bear in our body the marks of the Lord Jesus by a pure and holy life. O Saviour of the world, who by thy cross and precious blood hast redeemed us, save us and help us, we humbly beseech thee, O Lord, both now and evermore.

—Dean Goulburn, A. D. 1818.

O BLESSED JESUS, our Lord and our Master, who wast pleased to thirst for our souls, grant that we may not be satisfied with the pleasures of this lower life, but ever thirst for the salvation of the souls thou didst die to save, and, above all, to thirst for thee; grant this for thine own name's sake. Amen.

O THOU Prince of Peace, who, when thou wast reviled, reviled not again, and on the cross didst pray for thy murderers, implant in our hearts the

virtues of gentleness and patience, that we may overcome evil with good, for thy sake love our enemies, and as children of our heavenly Father seek thy peace, and evermore rejoice in thy love; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

O CHRIST, give us patience, and faith, and hope as we kneel at the foot of thy cross, and hold fast to it. Teach us by thy cross, that however ill the world may go, the Father so loved us that he spared not thee. —*Charles Kingsley, A. D. 1819.*

"Make It a Great, Solemn, Holy Hour"

O LORD CHRIST, we are coming under the shadow of thy cross. It is so solemn a thing to live, and it is a fearful thing to live without Christ; and so many of us have no Christ. We pray that thou wouldst soften all our hearts and penetrate our consciences for God. May there swim into the lives of the multitude this moment this upbraiding question, "Why have I not given my life to Christ before, and must I not give it to him now?" Make it a great, solemn holy hour that shall induce multitudes to come to Christ, for Christ's sake. Amen. —*Bishop Quayle.*

Easter Day

MY risen Lord, on this day may I be reminded of thy crucifixion! May I bear about in my body the dying of the Lord Jesus! May thy sufferings and thy death add solemnity and seriousness to my life! May I go softly all my days!

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who on the first day of the week didst rise from the dead, that thou mightest be our resurrection and life, raise us up now from the death of sin, that we may walk in newness of life, and hereafter rise to a happy eternity with thee. Give us grace to spend this day as a day holy unto thee, to thy honor and glory, for the good of

others, and our own salvation; for thy name's sake. Amen.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the glorious Prince of Salvation, with everlasting victory over hell and the grave: grant us power, we beseech thee, to rise with him to newness of life, that we may overcome the world with the victory of faith, and have part at last in the resurrection of the just; through the merits of the same risen Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

BLESSED be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which, according to his abundant mercy, hath begotten us again unto a lively hope, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for us. Keep us this day, O God, by thy power unto salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour, who with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, liveth and reigneth, world without end. Amen.

—1 Peter 1. 3–5, adapted; Saint Peter, A. D. 60.

O GRACIOUS LORD, who at this time didst raise thy Son Jesus Christ with power from the grave, raise us up, we beseech thee, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness. Revive our faith and make us followers of him who hath taken away the "sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath restored to us everlasting life." Hear us, O merciful Father, we pray thee, for the sake of our risen Saviour, to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Easter Sunday Evening

O GOD, who for our redemption didst give thine only begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection hast delivered us from the

power of the enemy, grant us to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him, in the joy of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —*Saint Gregory, A. D. 590.*

GRACIOUS LORD, we remember that thou didst accompany thy two disciples as they journeyed to Emmaus. We, too, have a journey, we have a weary pilgrimage to perform. Our Emmaus is a distant though happy land. Do thou go with us, O Lord: be our Fellow-traveler; guide us, uphold us, strengthen us, make our hearts to burn within us, and evermore manifest thou thyself to our souls in gracious and in heavenly power; for thy own name's sake we ask it. Amen. —*Archdeacon of Raphoe.*

HOLY FATHER, we give thee thanks that thou hast delivered us from the power of darkness and translated us into the kingdom of thy dear Son. Grant, therefore, we pray thee, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, he may raise us up in his love to joys eternal, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Note: For Ascension Day and other Church Festivals, see the Wesley Sunday Service.

PRAYERS FOR USE IN THE FAMILY

General Prayers for the Family Altar

I

SUNDAY

O GOD, who hast given us this day of rest, grant that thy constant presence may hallow it, and that thy love may draw all our hearts to thee; for we are thine, and not another's, and this is the day which thou hast made. Uplift our eyes unto thy holy hill, and keep our thoughts from wandering after vain things. Gladden our hearts as we go into thy house, O Lord, and prepare us to worship thee in spirit and in truth. Teach us how to pray, and tune our lips to sing the songs of Zion. Help us to keep this day unspotted from the world, in remembrance of Jesus Christ, risen from the dead. Bless, Lord, thy church through all the world: the ministers of thy Word, and so many as have named the name of Christ. Help thy servants to declare the whole truth, and thy people to praise thee in holy lives. Especially we pray for thy church in this place, that it may shine with the light of thy presence, and reveal to many the path of life. Grant that a special blessing rest upon those who teach and learn in the Sunday schools; that youth may put on the armor of the Lord and defend the purity of our homes. Preserve them and us from all assaults of the enemy, and succor those who have lost the road to heaven; for Christ's sake. The Lord's Prayer.

II

EVENING

BE patient with us, O God, as the day darkens, and suffer not our hearts to fail beneath the shadow of our sins and the remembrance of our offenses. For with thee there is forgiveness, and thy right hand is strong to uphold all them that put their trust in thee.

Thine, O Lord, is the praise, who hast made us in thine own image and redeemed us by thy Son. Help us to open our hearts to the Saviour of the world, and to receive the Spirit whom he has sent. Guided by him, may we be led into all truth, strengthened in all temptation, and filled with love to thee and to all whom thou hast placed together in family relationships. Let thy love reign in this household, and hallow all its duties and comforts. Let thy kingdom be planted in every heart and blossom in every life. Also we bless thee for a gospel to all the world, and pray for those who carry the cross of Christ to the world's end. Let thy gospel, O God, have a fuller hearing in men's hearts and a better witness in men's lives. Kindle the beacon light of thy church upon thy holy hill, and rouse men's hearts to serve thee. Hasten the better day when all shall dwell together in love and brotherhood, and not in mistrust or hate, and when the knowledge of thee shall fill the earth with peace. To thy fatherly care we commend those dear unto us, and under thy protecting wing we lay us down to sleep, in Jesus Christ, our Lord. The Lord's Prayer.

III

O GOD, the knowledge of whom is eternal life, and apart from whom the labor of the day is vain; assist our morning prayers, and give us minds that understand thy will for us, revealed in Jesus Christ. Help us now to carry the spirit of the Lord's Day into the business of the week, that we may live as in thy presence, may work as we have prayed, and in our daily occupations may praise thee. Let no worldly or selfish desires take hold of our hearts, but teach us how to use this world as not abusing it, and in all our goings to bear about with us the candle of the Lord. Support us in any difficulty or temptation, and help us to be faithful to those tasks and duties that seem small and commonplace, that we may be accounted worthy of a larger trust. Lord, send thy blessing upon this household; hold every member of this family fast in thine ennobling love. And in the

name of Him of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, we pray for all mankind; alike those who serve thee, that they may have strength and courage, and those who forget thee, that they may be awakened. In all the business relations of men let social justice be done and human brotherhood prevail over selfish lusts. To that end establish first thy kingdom in our own hearts, that we may become lights set in this world and heralds also of Christ's coming: in whose name we pray. The Lord's Prayer.

IV

WE offer unto thee, O Lord, our praises and thanksgivings for all thy mercies multiplied upon us, more than we can number and far greater than we can express. More especially do we praise thee for those spiritual blessings which thou hast revealed to us in the life of thy dear Son. Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which thou, O God, hast prepared for those that love thee. Give us grace to love thee more and more, till we come to thine everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O GOD, who art near us always, we would thank thee for all the good gifts with which thou hast filled our lives; for blessings all about our path, for love that makes life beautiful, for all thoughts that uplift and gladden us, for disappointment and failure which humble us, for pain and distress which teach us our need, but most of all for our hope in thee, and the fullness of joy which thy presence brings. Let us never doubt that having led us thus far, thou wilt lead us to the end, and that thou hast in store for us that perfect gladness of which we see some glimpses here. We all wish to serve thee; show to each of us how we shall do it best. Look upon all of us who kneel here this day; use us as thou wilt. Let us have no lower aim, let none of us measure ourselves by others, or by any narrow and common standard of good, but let our lives be beautiful on all sides and

full of this desire to be perfect as thou art perfect. We ask, knowing how poor and weak we are, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

V

WE praise thee, O God, with the morning light, and in the brightness of a new day we bless thy holy name. For all thou hast bestowed upon us with the gift of life, making us in thine own image, and granting us to share as children in thy knowledge and thy love, in thy work and thy joy, we thank thee, heavenly Father. For all good things in the world, for food and raiment, for home and friendship, for useful tasks and pure pleasures, we thank thee, heavenly Father. For all spiritual blessings, for thy holy Word, for the Christian fellowship, for the good example and blessed memory of thy saints, for the secret influence of thy Spirit; we thank thee, heavenly Father. And above all we praise and bless thee for the life and death of thy dear Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

O Lord, grant that our hearts may be truly cleansed, and filled with thy Holy Spirit, and that we may arise to serve thee, in entire confidence and submission to thy will, ready to do and to endure whatsoever thou hast appointed for us. Let us live for the day, not overcharged with worldly cares, but feeling that our treasure is not here, and desiring truly to be joined to thee in thy heavenly kingdom, and to those who are already gone to thee. O Lord, save us from sin, and guide us with thy spirit, and keep us in faithful obedience to thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. The Lord's Prayer.

VI

WE come to thee this morning, heavenly Father, with hearts full of thankfulness for the mercies of the night. We have rested in safety and in peace under the shadow of thy wing. Thou hast kept us quiet from the fear of evil; nor sickness, nor death,

nor tempest, nor fire, nor any calamity hath overtaken us or our dwelling. How sure are the mercies of thy covenant, O Lord! All thy promises in Christ Jesus are yea and amen. Fulfill unto us, we beseech thee, these thy mercies and promises, and cause that this day we may rejoice in thy salvation. Bless to us thy Word which we have now read. O, sanctify us by thy truth; and, while we receive its instruction and comfort in our hearts, may we carry out its precepts in our lives, and adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things. May we be just and true, loving and kind, gentle, forbearing, and forgiving, and so shine as lights in the world, holding forth the word of life. May every day witness some new victory over evil desires and passions within us, and over the evil that is in the world. Bless our rulers, and the schools and churches in our land. May all who rule, and all who teach, be led and taught by thee. Have pity upon the poor and the sorrowing; upon homes made desolate by famine, pestilence, or war. Mercifully forgive our sins, and bring us unto the perfection of knowledge, of holiness, and of blessedness, in Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom be glory forever. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

VII

HAVE mercy upon us, O God, according to thy loving-kindness; according to the multitude of thy tender mercies, blot out our transgressions. For we acknowledge our transgressions, and our sins are ever before us. We confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, and are not worthy to be called thy children. But thou, O Lord, art good, and ready to forgive, and plenteous in mercy to all them that call upon thee. To the broken in heart thou hast promised to be near, and to save such as be of a contrite spirit. Grant us a spirit of sincere contrition, that, searching our hearts by the light of thy truth, we may be enabled to see and acknowledge our evils, and to shun them as sins against thee. And may we be thus delivered, O Lord, from all idolatry of self and the world, from all pride and self-will, from all

prejudice, blindness, and hardness of heart, from covetousness and ambition, from all feelings of animosity, resentment, and contempt for those whom we dislike. The Lord's Prayer.

VIII

OUR waking eyes are unto thee, O Lord! Each morning brings us to thee with new obligations of gratitude for thy loving-kindness in the night-season, and of dependence for the day upon which we enter. We are not worthy of the least of all thy mercies; for we have sinned, O Lord! we have sinned against thy law, against thy love, against thy very grace in Christ our Saviour. Yet do we hope in thy mercy still, and cast ourselves upon thee alone. O thou Spirit of truth and holiness! we pray thee to keep us this day from sin. May we be mindful of thy presence, as a holy guardianship from wrong. And may we so delight in God, that we shall live above the power of temptation and evil, and, while diligent in business, be fervent in spirit, serving the Lord. Help us to be true and faithful, just and kind, gentle and loving, pure and holy. Teach us to behold thy glory in thy works, to discern thy goodness in thy providence, and to rejoice ever in thy word and thy grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. The Lord's Prayer.

IX

SUNDAY

LORD of the morning, thou dost hear us call, and thou art glad to answer us. We thank thee for this exceeding great mercy. We are astonished at it, but rejoice in it. Thy favor makes us glad and thy forbearance makes us to sing aloud. We bless thee for the morning, its new light, its dismissal of the shadows, its revealment of the world, its disclosure of the way duty's path takes, so we need not walk amiss. And we bless thee for this morning. It is Christ's Sabbath. He created it by waking from the grave of slumber on this day. This hallowed day,

wherein we wipe the dust of our week journey from the face of the heart and sit in great and quiet gladness in thy house and think of thee and then rejoice. We rejoice in God our Saviour. We are elate in hope. We walk at the summons of the risen Christ. Help us to walk henceforth in newness of life in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Make us holy folks. Forgive our sins, which we cannot deny are very, very many; but thy blood is our hope, and thy love is our joy. May thy service be sweeter to our hearts this day because of this service, and may we be at its conclusion as those who have had a conference with God, we pray in Christ. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

X

BLESSED be God, the Father of all mercies, for the mercies of the past night; for shelter, safety, comfort, rest, and peace. How precious are thy thoughts unto us, O God! how great is the sum of them! When we awake we are still with thee. So would our hearts rise to thee, O Lord, with the morning light, with the incense of prayer and praise; yea, we would present our bodies unto thee a living sacrifice. May this, our reasonable service, be made holy through the blood of Jesus, and acceptable through the Spirit of all grace. May the Holy Spirit descend and rest upon us, making our home and our hearts the abode of peace. Help us this day to live unto thee, and in all our works and ways to do that which is well-pleasing in thy sight. Prosper the labor of our hands, our studies, our various callings; bless to us the means of knowledge and improvement; make us thoughtful of others, considerate of the poor and afflicted, wise and ready unto every good word and work. We commend unto thee our kindred and friends, beseeching thee to grant them the promise of the life that now is; and in the world to come, life everlasting. We pray for thy holy church universal, for the coming of light, peace, and salvation in all the earth; through Christ our Lord. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

O LORD, hear our prayer, we beseech thee. Fit us day by day for the duties that lie before us. We would put ourselves and all that concerns us into thy hands, and ask thee to be our Guide and Counselor. In all our ways we desire to acknowledge thee; and do thou direct our path. Keep us, we beseech thee, from all evil, that we, being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that thou wouldst have us to do. Fit us, O Lord, for all the events of this short and uncertain life. If prosperity be our portion, keep us humble and watchful in the midst of it; or, if sorrows and trials come upon us, give us grace cheerfully to submit, saying, "Father, not my will, but thy will be done." Be very gracious to our friends: grant to them health and prosperity in this life, and make them meet for the life everlasting. And, O Lord, bless and save the whole world. We ask these blessings in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

XI

BOW down thine ear and hear us, for we are poor and needy. But thou, O Lord, art good and ready to forgive, and plenteous in mercy unto all those that call upon thee. O God, who hast appointed unto every man his work, and now art calling us to the occupations and duties of another day; help us to perform our tasks diligently and to guide our affairs with wisdom. And may it please thee to encourage our undertakings with thy favor, granting us such success as seemeth best to thee. Help us to walk uprightly and to live peaceably. Make us kindly affectioned one toward another, ready to minister to those in trouble and to do good to all men as we have opportunity. Suffer us not to be overburdened with this world's cares, or ensnared by its pleasures, or led astray by its fashions and examples: while we confess ourselves strangers and pilgrims on the earth, desiring a better country, that is, a heavenly. Father of mercies, receive our intercessions for all sorts and conditions of men. Keep the little children from the

evil of the world; preserve our homes in honor and happiness; make our neighborhood and country a part of thy kingdom; that thy kingdom may come by the common ways of life. Let all the people praise thee, and thy love bind them into one; through Jesus Christ our Lord. The Lord's Prayer.

XII

O GOD, our Father, we come to thee to begin the day. It is thy day, and we are thy children, and we would live through all the hours so as to please thee. Give us thy benediction, and grant to us the help of thy Holy Spirit, that we may do what thou wouldst have us do. Incline our hearts to keep thy commandments. Restrain in us all unholy tendencies and desires. Let us not come under the power of the evil one. Strengthen us for the enduring of whatever temptation we may meet during the day, and let us not yield to sin. Bless us in all our work. Help us to be diligent in all duty, faithful in all our relations in life, and earnest in doing whatever our hands find to do. Fill us with thy love, so that we may be kindly affectioned one to another, and always gentle, patient, thoughtful, and kind. Help us worthily to represent thee wherever we are to-day. May we have grace to show, not in our words only, but in our disposition, in our conduct, in our temper, in the very tones of our speech, the spirit of Christ, that all who see us shall see something of the Master in us. Help us to confess thee before men, and to honor thy name in all our life. Grant us the forgiveness of all our sins, and grace to live through all the hours of this day obediently, worthily, and faithfully, through Jesus Christ our Lord. The Lord's Prayer.

XIII

O GOD, we humbly pray thee, give us energy to meet all the demands made upon our life to-day. May we have the responsive spirit which answers every appeal of thine, whether it come through the

subtle influence of thy Spirit or through the voice of some one of thy needy children. May we be able to give better than those who ask expect. While an empty hand may be stretched toward us for alms, may we be able to give what the empty heart is craving but dares not ask for. O Lord, we want to be helpful to the poorest; we would use hand and voice and heart to cheer and comfort all who need our help. That we may, like thine apostle, take thy place of helpful ministry, give us thy Holy Spirit in full measure. Help us to realize that Christ is still giving himself in man for man. O for a greater faith in the Christ of to-day! Art thou not the same yesterday and to-day? When men looked upon thee, heard thy voice, and felt the touch of thy hand, wast thou more real than now? Did the testimony of the sense make thy presence more actual than our vision of faith may make thee? The Lord's Prayer.

XIV

ACCEPT our morning offering of praise, O Lord, for our hearts are filled with gratitude. Thou hast given us the priceless blessing of thy loving care. We thank thee that thy commandments are not grievous. And "in keeping of them there is great reward." Help us to understand that the reward of obedience is not reserved until after we have kept thy commandments, but in keeping of them we find our reward. Grant that we may so love thy law that we shall not keep it merely because we are afraid of the consequences of disobedience, but because it is in harmony with our desires. Grant that we may work with less friction, enjoy more perfect peace, have freer use of all our powers, proving that the "statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart." Forbid, O Lord, that we should rob ourselves of the things essential to our happiness, by making hard work of keeping thy commandments. Help us to begin the day and live it through under the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit. In the name of Christ, our Lord and Saviour. The Lord's Prayer.

XV

GIVER of all good, and Fountain of all joy, what rich feasts for our senses and our souls does thy fatherly love offer anew with each returning morning. How hast thou filled the earth with bounty and adorned it with beauty for our benefit. We see thy mercy freshly revealed in the light and privilege of this new day. Again we hear thy gracious invitations to come up higher and enjoy the felicity of heavenly things. Thanks we give thee for the returning light and our daily bread; for home and health and friends; for the instructions of thy truth and the opportunities of thy service; for repeated warnings against sin, and the ample rewards that crown our fidelity; for the sweet and kindly ties that bind us one to another, and the pure affections that spring up in our hearts, fountains of bliss unspeakable; for all that renders this world a pleasant home, and fits us for the life to come. Teach us, O Father, to imitate thine own boundless beneficence. Freely as we have received, so freely may we give. We would not selfishly appropriate thy favor, but would know the deeper joy of ministering to others' needs. Keep us this day without sin, and may its passing hours render us more worthy of thy love. And these benefits we ask for Christ's sake. The Lord's Prayer.

XVI

SUNDAY

HEAVENLY FATHER, we commend ourselves to thee this day. Be with us, we beseech thee, in prayer, to quicken our devotion; in praises, to heighten our love and gratitude; keep us from all wandering thoughts; fill our memory with the words of thy law, and enlighten our understanding with the illumination of the Holy Ghost. Remember in mercy all who are hindered from coming to thy house, or who are deprived of the means of grace. Bless and teach all those who this day give themselves to the instruction of the young or ignorant, and grant to us and thy whole church that at length, with all thy faithful

servants departed, we may enter into that rest which remaineth for thy people; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Accept, O Lord, our intercessions for all mankind. Let the light of thy gospel shine upon all nations, and may as many as have received it, live as becomes it. Be gracious unto thy church, and grant that every member of the same, in his vocation and ministry, may serve thee faithfully. Bless all in authority over us, and so rule their hearts and strengthen their hands that they may punish wickedness and vice, and maintain thy true religion and virtue. Send down thy blessings, temporal and spiritual, upon all our relations, friends, and neighbors. Reward all who have done us good, and pardon all those who have done or wish us evil, and give them repentance and better minds. Be merciful to all who are in any trouble; and do thou, the God of pity, administer to them according to their several necessities; for his sake who went about doing good, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen. Our Father.

XVII

Evening

ALMIGHTY GOD, we confess that it is by the Spirit of thy Son in our hearts that we cry, "Abba, Father," to thee. We thank thee that we are united to Christ by faith, and that it is no longer we who live, but Christ who lives in us. Hear us, for his sake. Our Father, forgive us wherein we have not lived by faith in Christ to-day. Forgive the actions that have not been Christlike, the speech that has not been seasoned with his spirit, and those things within our hearts which have defiled us in his sight. Break our bondage to all our besetting sins, and deliver us from every relationship in which we are not able to make thy will our law. Renew and establish the mind of Christ in us. Teach us a more humble and complete dependence upon him for all things, as we depend upon him for peace and safety this night. Bless, our Father, all conditions of men. May the rich and great

be not uplifted in the conceit of their power, nor the poor and lowly hardened by their lot. May rich and poor, great and small, be enabled to work together for the just distribution of the increase of human toil and for the common enjoyment of the blessings of life. Show all men the vanity of earthly things, and unite the hearts of all to do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly before thee, O God; to whose especial care we commend those of our immediate circle; in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. The Lord's Prayer.

XVIII

O LORD GOD, our fathers trusted in thee, and were not ashamed; and in thy love we would confide forever and ever. Thou art our Good Shepherd, in whom we trust. We will follow thee and commit our lives to thee. While we are weak, and unable to help ourselves or to aid one another, we would look up to thyself, in whom is everlasting strength, and in thee would we trust. In health and in sickness, in hope and in sorrow, in enjoyment and in suffering, we would look up to the hills whence cometh our help. The sun has spread its light over the world; the earth is bringing forth renewed supplies of good. Thou providest for the wants of man and beast. We bless thee, O Lord, for thy gifts, and pray that thou wilt receive our humble tribute of thanksgiving and praise. And still, merciful Father, be merciful to us in our renewed wants, and visit us with thy salvation. Go forth with us, O Lord, to the engagements, the difficulties, the duties, and the pleasures which await us to-day. O keep us from evil and sin! Bless all who are dear to us by any tie; all who are in any want, trouble, or sorrow; and hasten the coming of thy kingdom, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

XIX

O LORD, without whose aid we can do nothing aright; help us to understand thy will for us revealed in Jesus Christ; and assist us in our morning

prayers. Upon thee, who knowest what things we have need of before we ask, and art able to do for us above all that we ask or think, we cast our hopes and fears, our ambitions and our necessities, and we plead the promise of thy Fatherly love. Grant us in all our duties thy help, in all our temptations thy protection, in all our sorrows thy peace. And whatsoever it may please thee to give or to withhold, teach us to be content and to rest with unshaken trust on thine assurance that all things work together for good to them that love thee, and are called of thy high purpose through Jesus Christ our Lord. And now we pray for our relatives, friends, and associates, that thou wilt help us to be a blessing unto them; for the poor, the troubled, and the sick, that thou wilt help us to succor and to comfort them; for this community, our country, and all the nations of the earth. Let thy kingdom come with power in the world thou hast redeemed; and unto each of us whom thou hast called to serve thee give courage and patience, and lend us the strength of thy right hand. Grant that no evil shall come through our negligence, and that we lose no opportunity of doing good: for Christ's sake. The Lord's Prayer.

XX

WE lift up our eyes unto the hills, whence cometh our help; our help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. Thine angels, O Lord, have encamped round about us in the night season, and thou hast given them charge concerning us, to defend us from all evil. We open our eyes to the remembrance of thy mercy, to the consciousness of thy presence, to the sense of our dependence. Only our sins separate us from thee, our loving Father; and we beseech thee to blot these out for thy name's sake, and to receive us in Christ as thy redeemed and reconciled children. May thy favor be upon the community in which we dwell, upon thy church, upon our land! Give peace in our time, O Lord, and incline the hearts of our rulers to that which is just and lawful in thy sight. Have mercy upon the poor, the afflicted, the

solitary, the bereaved; and cause that the grace of thy gospel shall go forth everywhere to heal the sins and sorrows of all mankind. Finally bring us unto thine everlasting kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

XXI

OUR heavenly Father, this great world in which we live is thy world, and the object of thy redeeming love. We remember this as we come in prayer before thee, to ask for love, that we may go forth as sowers and as reapers in the great field of humanity. We pray for love, that we may seek the well-being of men. We pray for faith, that we may take hold of the work thou dost appoint us to do with perfect confidence in the power of thy grace. We pray for patience, that we may be gentle and forbearing and long-suffering in the service of mankind. We pray for wisdom, that we speak right words and do the right things in our endeavors to save men. We pray for the joy of thy salvation and for the upholding of thy Spirit, that we may teach transgressors thy ways and that sinners may be converted unto thee. And all this fitness for thy service we seek through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

XXII

O LORD, we beseech thee, grant us grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow thee. Suffer us never to fall away from Christ, and never, never to betray him. O! keep us from all covetous and worldly desires. O Lord Jesus, who art exalted to be a Prince and a Saviour, to give repentance and forgiveness of sin, we do repent of our sins before thee, and humbly beseech thee to receive us, according to thy promise that him that cometh unto thee thou wilt in no wise cast out. Give unto us, O Lord, that sense of thy presence which shall preserve us from sin; that strength of faith which shall over-

come evil; that peace which the world cannot give. We bring thee thanks for the mercies of the night, and supplicate thy grace for our friends and neighbors, for the absent dear to us, for thy church, for this family, yea, Lord, for the whole family of mankind—the world which thou hast died to save. O raise up a faithful ministry, and keep thy servants pure. We beseech thee, O Lord, to instruct us in our duty, and help us to perform it; to give us a tender conscience and an earnest spirit; to uphold us in the slippery ways of the world and give us sterling integrity of heart: and finally to receive us to thy presence in the world of endless life. And to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost be glory forever. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

XXIII

GOD the Father everlasting, whose throne is in the heavens, but who art not far from any of thy children, graciously receive our thanksgivings, and hear us while we pray. For life and strength, for the light of a new day, for the comfort and shelter of this home, and for the love that binds us to one another and to thee, we give thee thanks, O Lord. Strengthen and guard us by thy grace, we beseech thee, that we spend this day wholly in thy service. Cause us to hear thy loving-kindness in the morning, for in thee do we trust. Make us to know the way wherein we should walk, for we lift up our souls unto thee. We commend to thee our neighbors and associates; all who are tried or sorrowful, and those living without thee in the world. Purify and enrich thy church, and extend thy compassion to all mankind. Encourage those who work and pray for righteousness and peace through all the world, and those who carry thy light to the people who sit in darkness. Give power to thy spoken word, and make the cross of Jesus to shine before men's eyes. Grant unto thy Son to see of the travail of his soul and to be satisfied; and give to all his people willingness to share in his labors, that they may share also his victory; even Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose Name we pray, for whose coming

we look, and whose sovereignty we own. The Lord's Prayer.

XXIV

SUNDAY

O LORD, our heavenly Father, by whose mercy we are enabled to meet together to offer unto thee our united prayer and praise, and to meditate upon thy word, we thank thee for the privilege of divine worship, for the ministry of thy holy gospel, and for all the means which thou hast appointed for our spiritual instruction and the attainment of everlasting life. Bless now, we beseech thee, O Lord, our assembling as a family in thy name. Enable us so to dispose our thoughts and affections that our worship may be acceptable in thy sight. Grant that thy holy word, taught in its purity, may be received in humble and willing hearts. Give us a spiritual discernment of its heavenly wisdom, and guide us in a faithful application of it to our own lives. May thy words so abide in us that we may abide in thee. Awaken and strengthen in us a more abiding interest in what is spiritual and eternal, and more abiding love to thee and to the neighbor. Lead us to acknowledge thy providence in all the experiences of life, and in all things to follow thee. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

XXV

ORDER our steps in thy word, O Lord, and let not any iniquity have dominion over us. Give us strength against our inward foes. Deliver us from all idolatry of self and of the world; from all error, pride, and self-will. Lead us, O Lord, and teach us, that we may avoid all secret sin and open transgression; that we may be free from malice and unkindness, from selfish and covetous desires, from ingratitude to thee and to our neighbor, from worldly-mindedness and discontent. Help us to forgive our enemies, to love our neighbor as ourselves, and to do unto others as we would that they should do unto us. Hold up our goings in thy paths, that our footsteps slip not. Keep our tongues from evil and our lips

from speaking guile; that we may depart from evil and do good; may seek peace and pursue it. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

XXVI

WE lift up our eyes unto the mountains. From whence shall our help come? Our help cometh from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Thou wilt not suffer our foot to be moved. Thou who keepest us wilt not slumber. Thou art our keeper. Thou art our shade upon our right hand. The sun shall not smite us by day, nor the moon by night. Thou wilt keep us from all evil. Thou wilt keep our going out and our coming in from this time forth, and for evermore. We lift up our eyes unto thee, O thou that dwellest in the heavens. As the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters, and as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress, so do our eyes look unto thee, O Lord our God, until thou have mercy upon us. Teach us thy will for this day. We earnestly desire to live out the plan of life which thou hast for us in thy thought. Reveal it to us as we go on day by day. Let us not mar our own life by taking any smallest fragment out of thy hands into our own. Show us thy way, and make us willing to follow in it, even if it is not the way we ourselves would choose. May we have a day of goodness and mercy. Let us not grieve thee, nor turn away from thy commandments. Help us to live well—unselfishly and purely. Show us our faults, and then help us to overcome them and put them away. Give us grace to make restitution if we have taken anything from another which was not ours; may we be enabled this very day to pay it back. Let us never lie, nor steal, nor defraud in any way. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be upon us. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

XXVII

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, go forth with us, we pray thee, to the duties of this day, so that all may be done in thy holy Name. Make us

diligent to perform whatsoever our hands find to do. Preserve us from covetousness and from complaint of our opportunities. Keep us just and truthful in all our dealings. Guard our spirits from anger. Make us pitiful toward all those who toil with us or for us. Teach us to be patient with those who are ignorant. Let us not forget to give the hand of friendship to those who are unfortunate or to those cast down by affliction. May everyone who has resolved on a better life find encouragement in our example and fellowship. Give us resignation to thy will when losses and disappointments come to us. Be graciously pleased to take us and all things belonging to us under thy fatherly care and protection. All this we ask in the Name of him who loved us, and gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

XXVIII

O GOD, our heavenly Father, we would commit to thy Fatherly care all whom we love, especially those who are far away. O Lord, remember them for good, be thou with each one of them, keep them outwardly from all harm, and above all bless and strengthen them in their souls. Pour out thy Holy Spirit upon them to guide them into all truth. Grant unto each one of us that we may be standing with our loins girded and our lamps burning, waiting for the coming of our Lord. And we also bless thy holy name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom; grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

XXIX

WE have thought of thy loving-kindness, O God, and a glow of love has filled our hearts. We might multiply words of praise for what thou art to us, but will do what we believe will please thee better—ask thee to open still wider the door of thy mercy, and lavish upon us more abundantly the riches

of thy grace. Save us from thinking lightly of the follies and sins of men, but save us also from censorious criticism. Help us to see and rejoice in what is worthy in our own lives, but save us from being blind to our own faults. While we study to understand and profit by human precepts, help us to go deeper and reach higher to find what God would say to us. "Thy commandments are exceeding broad," and we believe we can learn more of thee than of any other teacher. We want to be more simple in our attitude toward thee and more serviceable in our relations with our fellow men. Adjust us to thy plan. Help us to speak when we ought to speak and to be silent when that would be best. Inspire in us the militant spirit when we have real battles to fight: make us very meek and patient when we are called to suffer. O Lord, fulfill our hearts' desire and make us like Jesus Christ. For his sake. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

XXX

MERCIFUL FATHER, bless, we beseech thee, with all best blessings, both spiritual and temporal, all members of this family, whether present or absent. Bestow upon them, O Lord, such measure of earthly prosperity as may be good for them, and keep them, if thou wilt, in health and safety. But far above all earthly blessings, we ask thee to make this family to be a family fearing thee. "Let thy fatherly hand, we beseech thee, ever be over them; let thy Holy Spirit ever be with them." Unite them together in the bonds of holy love, and in the unity of thy holy church, that they may abide in thee, and after being separated for a little while here below, may be again united in that kingdom where they can be parted no more forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

XXXI

O ETERNAL GOD, who alone makest men to be of one mind in an house; help us, the members of this household, faithfully to fulfill our duties to

thee and to each other. Put far from us all unkind thoughts, anger, and evil speaking. Give us tender hearts, full of affection and sympathy toward all. Grant us grace to feel the sorrows and trials of others as our own, and to bear patiently with their imperfections. Preserve us from selfishness, and grant that, day by day, walking in love, we may grow up into the likeness of thy blessed Son, and be found ready to meet him, and to enter with him into that place which he has gone to prepare for us; for his sake, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost ever, one God, world without end. Amen.

LORD, make this day to be the day of thy tender mercy. Listen to the prayers of all thy children, be the Shepherd of the lost, the Guide and Light of unbelievers, the Teacher of the simple, the Father of the fatherless, the Protector of the oppressed, the Physician of the suffering, the Comforter of the dying, and bring us all at last to thee, our Refuge and Eternal Rest. Grant us, O Lord, to pass this day in gladness and peace, without stumbling and without stain; that, reaching the eventide victorious over all temptation, we may praise thee. O God, who knowest the weakness and corruption of our nature, and the manifold temptations which we daily meet with, we humbly beseech thee to have compassion on our infirmities, and to give us the constant assistance of thy Holy Spirit; that we may be effectually restrained from sin, and excited to our duty. Imprint upon our hearts such a dread of thy judgments, and such a grateful sense of thy goodness to us, as may make us both afraid and ashamed to offend thee. And, above all, keep in our minds a lively remembrance of that great day, in which we must give a strict account of our thoughts, words, and actions; and according to the works done in the body, be eternally rewarded or punished, by him whom thou hast appointed the Judge of quick and dead, thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. The Lord's Prayer.

Various Prayers for the Family

Dedication

SINCE it is of thy mercy, O gracious Father, that another day is added to our lives, we here dedicate both our souls and our bodies to thee and thy service, in a sober, righteous, and godly life: in which resolution, do thou, O merciful God, confirm and strengthen us, that, as we grow in age, we may grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

For the Household

O ALMIGHTY GOD, look graciously upon this household as we are now gathered together in thy name. Give them whom thou hast set over it, wisdom to direct those committed to their charge; give to all its members strength to fulfill thy will in the daily work to which thou hast appointed them; grant that love and peace with all other graces may live and grow among them, and that finally we may meet before thy throne in heaven, and be united in thy love forever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE earnestly pray that thou wilt let thy blessing rest upon us, and upon this household. May it be meet for thy Sacred Presence. Bless, we beseech thee, every member of it; let not one heart be estranged from thee by doubt or fear, by pride or selfishness. Thou art our Father: teach us to be trustful as children. We would also remember before thee those who are bound to us by ties of kinship and friendship, those who have become dear to us in our religious life, those who serve us in any way, great or small, our benefactors; knowing too thy tender compassion, we ask that thy blessed comfort and hope may be bestowed upon the suffering in mind and body, especially the mourners, the troubled, the sick, the weary, the poor, the lonely. And may those who are sorely tempted to sin, or who have fallen into sin which separates their hearts from thee, be often re-

minded of thy merciful kindness toward them, and so be strengthened to resist the evil, and turn from it to thee, their Father and Friend; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

An Evening Dedication

SEND thy peace into our hearts, O Lord, at the evening hour, that we may be contented with thy mercies of this day, and confident of thy protection for this night; and now, having forgiven others, even as thou dost forgive us, may we have a pure comfort and a healthful rest within the shelter of this home; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

REGARD, O Lord, with thy favor all the members of this household. Bind us together in love, sympathy, and forbearance. Brighten our daily existence with those endearing graces that come from thee. Help us to live each for the other, and to find our happiness in doing good and denying ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O GOD, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom every family in heaven and earth is named, grant unto our friends, and to all the members of this household, that, according to the riches of thy glory, we may be strengthened with might by thy Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in our hearts by faith; that we, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth and length and depth and height, and to know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge, that we may be filled with all the fullness of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

An Evening Blessing

ABIDE with us, O good Lord, through the night, guarding, keeping, guiding, sustaining, sanctifying, and with thy love gladdening us, that in thee we may ever live, and in thee may die; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

I WILL lay me down in peace and take my rest, for it is thou, Lord, only that maketh me to dwell in safety. Amen.

"Lord, Behold Our Family"

LORD, behold our family here assembled. We thank thee for this place in which we dwell; for the love that unites us; for the peace accorded us this day; for the hope with which we expect to-morrow; for the health, the work, the food, and the bright skies, that make our lives delightful; for our friends in all parts of the earth, and our friendly helpers in this foreign isle. Let peace abound in our small company. Purge out of every heart the lurking grudge. Give us grace and strength to forbear and to persevere. Offenders, give us the grace to accept and to forgive offenders. Forgetful ourselves, help us to bear cheerfully the forgetfulness of others. Give us courage and gayety and the quiet mind. Spare to us our friends; soften to us our enemies. Bless us if it may be in all our innocent endeavors. If it may not, give us the strength to encounter that which is to come, that we be brave in peril, constant in tribulation, temperate in wrath and in all changes of fortune, and down to the gates of death, loyal and loving one to another. As the clay to the potter, as the windmill to the wind, as children to their sire, we beseech of thee this help and mercy, for Christ's sake.

—*Robert Louis Stevenson.*

For Mutual Help in the Household

O HEAVENLY FATHER, shed forth thy blessed Spirit richly on all the members of this household. Make each one of us an instrument in thy hands for good. Purify our hearts, strengthen our minds and bodies, fill us with mutual love. Let no pride, no self-conceit, no rivalry, no dispute, ever spring up among us. Make us earnest and true, wise and prudent, giving no just cause for offense; and may thy holy peace rest upon us this day and every day, sweetening our trials, cheering us in our work, and

keeping us faithful to the end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Divine Presence in the Home

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, be thou present with us in all our duties, and grant the protection of thy presence to all that dwell in this house, that thou mayest be known to be the Defender of this household and the Inhabitant of this dwelling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Gelasian Sacramentary, A. D. 494.*

For Our Relations and Friends and All Men

WE commend to thy loving-kindness, O God, all our relations and friends, that they may be filled with thy grace. Have mercy on all sick and dying persons, all who are suffering or in sorrow, and grant to all who are living in error, or ignorance, or sin, the grace of repentance; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O THOU, who art the God of all the families of the earth, we beseech thee to bless all our friends and kindred, wherever they may be; and especially . . . ; and to grant that we may ever be knit together in the bonds of mutual love; and, above all, that we may be members together of the mystical body of Christ; through the same, thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Absent Friends

O LORD of Love, who art not far from any of thy children, watch with thy care those who are far away from us; be thou about their path; be thou within their hearts; be thou their defense upon their right hand; give them unfailing trust in thee; grant them power against temptation; qualify them for whatever task thou givest them to do; deliver them from the snares of setting duty aside; make it their joy to do thy will. Let not distance break the bonds

of love which bind them to us and to thee, but knit us closer in thy love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

On One Leaving the Home

O GOD, who art in every place beholding the evil and the good, take into thine own keeping our dear one now going into the world of strangers. Give him courage, prudence, self-control. Grant him a right judgment in all things. Raise up for him friends, if it be thy will, and deliver him from the snares and sorrows of loneliness by the power and joy of thy presence. Grant that in every place he may find the house of God and the gate of heaven. Safeguard him with the ministry of thy never-failing providence, now and always; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Dr. S. Johnson, A. D. 1709.*

A Wedding in the Home

O GOD, bless thy servants who are about to be joined together this day in holy matrimony; keep them, we beseech thee, under the protection of thy good providence, and make them to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy name. Look, O Lord, mercifully upon them from heaven, and bless them; that they obeying thy will and alway being in safety under thy protection, may abide in thy love unto their lives' end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Family Prayer Book of the Church of Ireland, A. D. 1895.*

On Setting Up a New Home

O LORD GOD of our fathers, Giver of life and love, give thy blessing to us whom thou hast drawn together in love; surround us with thy protecting care; build thou for us our home; make it to be the abode of light and love. May all that is pure, tender, and true grow up under its shelter; may all that hinders godly union and concord, be driven far from it. Make it the center of fresh, sweet, and holy influence. Give us wisdom for life, and discretion in the guidance of

our affairs. Let thy Fatherly hand ever be over us, and thy Holy Spirit ever be with us. O Lord, bless us and ours, and grant us all to inherit thine everlasting Kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Poor and Needy

O GOD, remember in thy mercy the poor and needy, the widow and the fatherless, the stranger and the friendless, the sick and the dying [and any such known to us whom we name in our heart before thee] and those who do not pray for themselves and who have none to pray for them. Relieve their needs, sanctify their sufferings, strengthen their weakness; and in due time bring them out of bondage into the glorious liberty of the sons of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Pardon

GRACIOUS FATHER, give us perfect pardon for what is past, and a perfect repentance for all our evils, that for the time to come we may, with pure spirits, with broken and contrite hearts, with sanctified lips and holy desires, serve thee religiously, walk humbly with thee our God, converse justly and charitably with men, and possess our souls in patience and holiness, and our bodies in sanctification and honor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Bishop Jeremy Taylor, A. D. 1613.*

Dedication of Ourselves to God's Service

O ALMIGHTY GOD, who by thy holy apostle hast taught us to present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto thee, which is our reasonable service; we come unto thee in the name of Jesus Christ, and we devote and dedicate ourselves wholly to thy service, henceforth to live only to thy glory. Do thou, the very God of peace, sanctify us wholly, and preserve our whole spirit and soul and body blameless, unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

For the Spirit of Prayer

O ALMIGHTY GOD, from whom every good prayer cometh, and who pourest out on all who desire it, the spirit of grace and supplications; deliver us, when we draw nigh to thee, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind; that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship thee in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

LORD, our God, who keepest covenant and promises with those that love thee with their whole heart; who art the life of all, the help of those that flee unto thee, the hope of those who cry unto thee; cleanse us from our sins, secret and open, and from every thought displeasing to thy goodness—cleanse our bodies and souls, our hearts and consciences, that with a pure heart and a clear soul, with perfect love and calm hope, we may venture confidently and fearlessly to pray unto thee. Amen.

For Purity

O ETERNAL GOD, who hast taught us by thy Holy Word that our bodies are temples of thy Spirit, keep us, we most humbly beseech thee, temperate and holy in thought, word, and deed, that we, with all the pure in heart, may see thee, and be made like unto thee in thy heavenly kingdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

WHATSOEVER things are pure and lovely, whatsoever things are gentle and generous, whatsoever things are noble and self-forgetful, honorable and of good report, these things, O Lord, grant that we may with one accord pursue; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For a Blessing on the Opening Day

ALMIGHTY GOD, we kneel before thee to ask thy blessing upon us this morning. We thank thee for the care which has watched over us in the hours

of darkness, and we now beseech thee to go forth with us to our daily work. Keep us pure and holy by the indwelling of thy Holy Spirit. Make us strong and of good courage; let us remember that thou wilt never fail nor forsake us. Let neither the cares nor the business of the day disturb our trust in thee. May we never murmur under any trial, nor be discontented with our lot, but raise our affections to things above, that we may even now behold thy presence in righteousness. We ask every blessing in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

A Morning Prayer

O LORD, lift up the light of thy countenance upon us; let thy peace rule in our hearts, and may it be our strength and our song, in the house of our pilgrimage. We commit ourselves to thy care and keeping this day; let thy grace be mighty in us, and sufficient for us, and let it work in us both to will and to do of thine own good pleasure, and grant us strength for all the duties of the day. Keep us from sin. Give us the rule over our own spirits, and keep us from speaking unadvisedly with our lips. May we live together in peace and holy love, and do thou command thy blessing upon us, even life for evermore. Prepare us for all the events of the day, for we know not what a day may bring forth. Give us grace to deny ourselves; to take up our cross daily, and to follow in the steps of our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —*Matthew Henry, A. D. 1662.*

For Our Children

OUR FATHER, we ask thee to bless us. We thank thee for the new life that has come into our home. We bring it to thee in consecration. We would lay it in thine arms. We would ask for thy divine keeping of it. We cannot keep it, for the world is very full of evil. Thou alone canst guard it from harm. We ask thee for grace to make our home a fit place for this precious life to grow up in. Help us to make it a place of love,

a place of prayer, a place of all beautiful living, a place sweet with heaven's fragrance. Make us fit to hold this child in our arms, to clasp it to our bosom, to be its teachers and guides. Help us to answer its questions, to solve its problems, and to be to it a pattern of holy living.

BLESS our children with healthful bodies, with good understandings, with the graces and gifts of thy Spirit, with sweet dispositions and holy habits; and sanctify them throughout in their bodies, souls, and spirits, and keep them unblameable to the coming of our Lord Jesus. Amen.

—*Bishop Jeremy Taylor, A. D. 1613.*

ALMIGHTY GOD and heavenly Father, we thank thee for the children which thou hast given us; give us also grace to train them in thy faith, fear, and love, that as they advance in years they may grow in grace, and may hereafter be found in the number of thine elect children; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Bishop Cosin, A. D. 1594.*

BLESS, we beseech thee, our beloved children. Keep them in health of body; but, above all, may their souls prosper and be in health. Teach them to love the Saviour, who said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me." May they in early youth take him to be their Master and Friend, and ever follow in his steps. Preserve them from the evil that is in the world. As they grow in years, may they grow in grace; and finally may they be thine in that day when thou makest up thy jewels. Amen.

MERCIFUL FATHER, regard with thy tender love and favor thy children. Grant that as they have been admitted by baptism into the fellowship of thy people, so they may evermore grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Keep them in all temptation; teach them thy truth; and grant that they may early give their hearts to thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Those Who Train Children

O GOD, since thou hast laid the little children into our arms in utter helplessness, with no protection save our love, we pray that the sweet appeal of their baby hands may not be in vain. Let no innocent life in our cities be quenched again in useless pain through our ignorance and sin. May we who are mothers and fathers seek eagerly to join wisdom to our love, lest love itself be deadly when unguided by knowledge. Bless the doctors and nurses, and all the friends of men who are giving of their skill and devotion to the care of our children. If there are any who were kissed by love in their own infancy, but who have no child to whom they may give as they have received, grant them such largeness of sympathy that they may rejoice to pay their debt in full to all children who have need of them. Forgive us, our Father, for the heartlessness of the past. Grant us great tenderness for all babes who suffer, and a growing sense of the divine mystery that is brooding in the soul of every child. For the sake of Christ, our Saviour.

—*W. Rauschenbusch, 1912.*

GOOD SHEPHERD, who carriest the lambs in thine arms, give thy Spirit, we beseech thee, to all those engaged in training the young; make them patient, grant them tenderness, sincerity, and firmness, and enable them to lead the young hearts to thee, for thy name's sake. Amen.

Children's Prayers

"Lord, Teach Us to Pray"

O GOD, our Father, thou hast promised to hear thy children when they pray to thee, help us now to pray; teach us what to ask for; help us to mean what we say, and give us grace to love thee more and more, and to love the people for whom we pray, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

A Morning Prayer

O MOST loving Saviour Jesus Christ, who did suffer little children to come unto thee, and didst lay thy hands upon them and bless them, look upon us also thy children, and bless us. We thank thee that thou hast kept us safe through the night, and we pray thee to take care of us this day. Bless our father and mother, our brothers and sisters, and all our friends; help us to love and serve thee more and more. Amen.

A Prayer for Sunday Morning

O HEAVENLY FATHER, we thank thee for taking care of us during the past night, and now help us to remember that this is thine own day. May we love thy day, and never do anything which we know to be wrong. When we go to thy house of prayer may we be able to sing thy praises, and understand thy Word, and try to worship thee. So may we be helped to be better in the week days, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

For Forgiveness

FORGIVE us, O merciful Father, all our sins, and of thy loving-kindness watch over us through the day. Keep us safe from all dangers, and help us in all temptations. Keep us from all evil thoughts, from all careless words, and from all wrong actions. Make us diligent in our work, unselfish and patient with all with whom we have to do. Help us to remember the example of the Lord Jesus, and try at work and at home to be like him. For his sake we ask it. Amen.

During Illness

O GOD our heavenly Father, who knowest our weakness and wilt not lay upon us more than we can bear, help us to bear it patiently. May we through suffering learn to love thee better, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

For a Birthday

IT is my birthday, Lord Jesus, my Saviour, and I thank thee for giving me the wonderful gift of life. I pray thee that I may use my life rightly, that I may try to grow braver, kinder, wiser and truer year by year. I thank thee for all the joys of the past year, and pray thee to bless me through the coming one. Help me to conquer my faults and live more to thy glory. Grant me thy grace to help all those around me, and to try and make them happy. Be with me step by step all through this new year, and keep me safe unto the end; for thy sake. Amen.

For Morning

NOW I awake and see the light,
'Tis God has kept me through the night;
To him I lift my voice and pray,
That he will keep me through the day.

For Evening

NOW I lay me down to sleep.
I pray thee, Lord, my soul to keep.
If I should die before I wake,
I pray thee, Lord, my soul to take.
And this I ask for Jesus' sake. Amen.

For New-Year

ANOTHER year is dawning!
Dear Master, let it be,
In working or in waiting,
Another year with thee.

Another year is dawning!
Dear Master, let it be
On earth, or else in heaven,
Another year with thee.

Graces for the Table

THE Lord make us grateful for all his mercies, and add his blessing, for Christ's sake. Amen.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who providest for us, nourish our souls with the Bread of Life in Jesus Christ. Amen.

FATHER, wilt thou enrich and strengthen us by these thy gifts, and show us thy way that we may walk in it. We ask it in Christ. Amen.

FATHER, be pleased to refresh us by this food. Open before us the way of peace and service and eternal life, for Christ's sake. Amen.

LORD, help us to receive all good things as from thy hand, and to use them to thy praise. Amen.

HEAVENLY FATHER, make us thankful to thee, and mindful of others, as we receive these blessings, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

FATHER in heaven, sustain our bodies with this food, our hearts with true friendship, and our souls with thy truth, for Christ's sake. Amen.

BE present at our table, Lord.
Be here and everywhere adored.
These mercies bless, and grant that we
May feast in paradise with thee. Amen.

LORD JESUS, be our holy Guest,
Our morning Joy, our evening Rest;
And with our daily bread impart
Thy love and peace to every heart. Amen.

BIBLE READINGS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP[1]

"These words thou shalt teach diligently unto thy children." "Write them upon the doorposts of thy house." —*Deuteronomy 6. 7-9.*

For Eventide

O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens.

2 Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hast thou ordained strength because of thine enemies, that thou mightest still the enemy and the avenger.

3 When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;

4 What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?

5 For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honor.

6 Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:

7 All sheep and oxen, yea, and the beasts of the field;

8 The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.

9 O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! —*Psalm 8.*

A Morning Psalm

THE heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

2 Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.

3 There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.

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[1] *Note: See also lessons in the Wesley Sunday Service, pp. 201, 202.*

4 Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,

5 Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.

6 His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

7 The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

8 The statutes of the Lord are right, repoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.

9 The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.

12 Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.

13 Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.

14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer. —*Psalm 19.*

The Shepherd Psalm

THE Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. —*Psalm 23.*

Fearless Trust in God

THE Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

2 When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.

3 Though a host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.

4 One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.

5 For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.

6 And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the Lord. —*Psalm 27. 1-6.*

Fret Not, but Trust in the Lord

FRET not thyself because of evil doers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb.

3 Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.

4 Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

5 Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

6 And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

7 Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

9 For evil doers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.

—*Psalm 37. 1-9.*

God Our Refuge—The War Psalm

GOD is our refuge and strength, a very preasant help in trouble.

2 Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;

3 Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof. Selah.

4 There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High.

5 God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her, and that right early.

6 The heathen raged, the kingdoms were moved: he uttered his voice, the earth melted.

7 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

8 Come, behold the works of the Lord, what desolations he hath made in the earth.

9 He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.

10 Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

11 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. —*Psalm 46.*

Penitence and Prayer

HAVE mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.
3 For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me.
4 Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.
5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.
6 Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.
7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
8 Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice.
9 Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities.
10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.
11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.
12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free Spirit.
13 Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.
14 Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness.
15 O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise.
16 For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering.
17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.
18 Do good in thy good pleasure unto Zion: build thou the walls of Jerusalem.
19 Then shalt thou be pleased with the sacrifices of righteousness, with burnt offering and whole burnt offering: then shall they offer bullocks upon thine altar.

—*Psalm 51.*

The Missionary Psalm

GOD be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us;

2 That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.

3 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.

4 O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Selah.

5 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.

6 Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us.

7 God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him. —*Psalm 67.*

In the Secret of His Presence

HE that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

2 I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust.

3 Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.

4 He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler.

5 Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day;

6 Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

7 A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.

8 Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.

9 Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the Most High, thy habitation;

10 There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.

11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.
12 They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone.
13 Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet.
14 Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.
15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honor him.
16 With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation. —*Psalm 91.*

A Psalm of Praise

MAKE a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.
2 Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing.
3 Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.
5 For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations. —*Psalm 100.*

The Lord Is Thy Keeper

I WILL lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help.
2 My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth.
3 He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber.
4 Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.
5 The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.
6 The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night.

7 The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.

8 The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore. —*Psalm 121.*

For the Practice of the Presence of God

O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me.

2 Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising; thou understandest my thought afar off.

3 Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways.

4 For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether.

5 Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me.

6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it.

7 Whither shall I go from thy Spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.

9 If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;

10 Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.

11 If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.

12 Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.

23 Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts:

24 And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. —*Psalm 139. 1-12, 23, 24.*

Fear the Lord Thy God to Keep His Statutes

NOW these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the Lord your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it: That thou mightest

fear the Lord thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the Lord God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey. Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.

—*Deuteronomy 6. 1–9.*

"He Was Wounded for Our Transgressions"

BUT he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken. And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. —*Isaiah 53. 5-10.*

Life More Than Meat

THEREFORE I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: and yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof. —*Matthew 6. 25-34.*

The Good Samaritan

AND, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou? And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself. And he said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live. But he, willing to justify himself, said unto Jesus, And who is my neighbor? And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which

stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. And by chance there came down a certain priest that way; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, and went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him: and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee. Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbor unto him that fell among the thieves? And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise. —*Luke 10. 25-37.*

The Prodigal Son

AND he said, A certain man had two sons: and the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great

way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: and bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

—*Luke 15. 11-24.*

God So Loved the World

FOR God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.

—*John 3. 16-21.*

Men Known by Their Fruits

AND the Jews marveled, saying, How knoweth this man letters, having never learned? Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me. If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself. He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him. Did not Moses give you the law, and yet none of you keepeth the law? Why go ye about to kill me? The people answered and said,

Thou hast a devil: who goeth about to kill thee? Jesus answered and said unto them, I have done one work, and ye all marvel. —*John 7. 15-21.*

The Way, the Truth, the Life

LET not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. —*John 14. 1-7.*

Promise of the Comforter

AND whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father. . . . These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all

things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

—*John 14. 13-21, 25-27.*

Bearing Fruit

I AM the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit; for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

—*John 15. 1-8.*

God's Angel Standing by Paul

AND when neither sun nor stars in many days appeared, and no small tempest lay on us, all hope that we should be saved was then taken away. But after long abstinence, Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss. And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship. For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Cesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee. Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.

—*Acts 27. 20-25.*

The Supremacy of Love

THOUGH I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become *as* sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing. Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

—*1 Corinthians 13.*

Walk in the Spirit

THIS I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other; so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these, Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, mur-

ders, drunkenness, revellings and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

—*Galatians 5. 16-24.*

I Bow My Knees unto the Father

FOR this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

—*Ephesians 3. 14-21.*

The Whole Armor of God

FINALLY, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all,

taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; and for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in bonds; that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak. —*Ephesians 6. 10-20.*

Gain and Loss for Christ

BUT what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, and be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: that I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; if by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. —*Philippians 3. 7-14.*

The Way of Peace

REJOICE in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto

God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. —*Philippians 4. 4-8.*

The River of Water of Life

AND he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: and they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever. —*Revelation 22. 1-5.*

Doers of the Word

DO not err, my beloved brethren. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: for the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a

glass: for he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world. —*James 1. 16-27.*

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PRAYERS FOR SPECIAL OBJECTS AND PERSONS

For Those in Affliction

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, the Comfort of the sad, and the Strength of sufferers, let the prayers of those that cry out of any tribulation come unto thee; that all may rejoice to find that thy mercy is present with them in their afflictions; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HAVE compassion, we beseech thee, O Lord, upon all those whose hearts are touched with sorrow, whose spirits are troubled or cast down within them. O Lord, remember those to whom the burdens of this life bring dimness or darkness of soul. Send them help from above, and have mercy on all who suffer in body or mind, from whatever cause. O Lord, have mercy on them continually. Amen.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who in the time of our shadow and darkness canst be our only true and lasting light; look upon us thy sad children with thy constant mercy, and give unto us the spirit of understanding promised by thy dear Son. When our eyes no longer behold what we have loved, and when we listen for the footsteps of those who have gone out of our sight, and hear them not, what can we do but turn to thee? And when our hearts fail us, and we sigh for that which cannot be, and no traveler comes back from that far country, and there are none to comfort us, make us to trust in thee. Then comfort our souls with the words of thy Son, I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. Give us this comfort of Christ through the

Spirit of truth, in whom grant us all to abide for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, look down in thy infinite pity upon these bereaved ones, smitten to the dust, and overwhelmed with the greatness and suddenness of this sorrow. Help them to bear the burden of this grief. Help them to believe that thou lovest them. Let thy love shine graciously upon them in this dark day. Grant unto them thy blessing of resignation and trust in thee. Support and comfort them with thy Holy Spirit. And enable them so to do and to bear thy holy will, that after all the changes and trials of this mortal life they may, in thy paradise, be united again with loved ones gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O LOVING JESUS, who didst take little children unto thine arms to bless them; we believe that thou hast received the child now hidden from our sight. Thou lovedst him better than we loved him. Thou knewest what was best for him better than we knew. Thou willest, in thy love, that he should be with thee where thou art. We ask thee, O our Saviour, to have mercy on us who remain. Make all thy children to know how short and uncertain their time is. May they learn to love thee in obedience and innocence, that so, when thou callest them away, their eyes may see the King in his beauty, and their voices join in the songs of those who praise thee day and night in thy temple. And unto thee, O blessed Lord Jesus, with the Father and the Holy Spirit shall be glory forever and ever. Amen.

O THOU, who art the ever-blessed God, the underlying Peace of the world, and who wouldst draw all men into the companionship of thy joy; speak, we beseech thee, to this thy servant, for whom we pray. Take him by the hand and say unto him, "Fear not; for I am with thee. I have called thee by my name; thou art mine." Put such a spirit of trust within him that all fear and foreboding shall be cast

out, and that right reason and calm assurance may rule his thoughts and impulses. Let quietness and confidence be his strength. Reveal to him the vision of a universe guided and governed by thy wise and loving care; and show him that around and about him are thy unseen and beneficent powers. Lift up his whole being into communion with thy life and thought. Let him ever remember that thou dost not give to any the spirit of fearfulness, but a spirit of power and love and self-mastery. In this faith, grant, O Lord, that he may summon the energies of his soul against the miseries that cast him down. Give him courage, confidence, an untroubled heart, and a love that loves all creatures, great and small, for thy love's sake. Amen. —*Samuel McComb.*

Thanksgiving for Recovery

O FATHER OF MERCIES, we thank thee in behalf of the member of this family whom thou hast restored to health. We cried unto thee, and thou hast healed him. We trusted in thee, and thou hast helped us. Therefore will we praise thy name together. Grant, O Lord, that the life which thou hast saved may be more entirely devoted to thy service, and that we may learn to love thee, and trust in thee more and more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Sick and Dying

O CHRIST our Lord, who art the Physician of salvation, grant unto all who are sick the aid of heavenly healing. Look upon all faithful people who are sick and who love to call upon thy name, and take their souls into thy keeping, and vouchsafe to deliver them from all sickness and infirmity; through Jesus Christ. Amen. —*Mozarabic Liturgy, before A. D. 700.*

O GOD, our refuge and strength, who art a very present help in trouble, we know that thou wilt look graciously upon this thy servant, and send him patience and comfort in this time of his great distress. Thou wilt strengthen him with the consolations of

thy Holy Spirit, and wilt enable him to rise above all pain and weakness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O FATHER of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need; look down from heaven, we humbly beseech thee, behold, visit, and relieve thy sick servant, for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon him with the eyes of thy mercy; comfort him with a sense of thy goodness; preserve him from the temptations of the enemy; give him patience under his affliction; and, in thy good time, restore him to health, and enable him to lead the residue of his life in thy fear, and to thy glory. Or else give him grace so to take thy visitation, that, after this painful life ended, he may dwell with thee in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For a Sick Child

MOST MERCIFUL SAVIOUR, who lovest little children, and thyself didst live as a little child upon the earth, we come to thee in behalf of one whom we love. Thou art the Good Shepherd and carest for the lambs of thy flock, leading them tenderly and bearing them in thy gentle arms. Bring thou this child, for whom our prayer is offered, safely through the time of sickness and danger. Teach him to be meek and loving and obedient like thyself. Keep him from all fretfulness and impatience. Let him feel that thou art ever near. Let him learn to love thee better and better. And if thou art pleased to restore him to health, make him to walk all his days, be they many or few, in the way that leadeth to eternal life. Hear us, O pitiful and loving Lord, who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest one God, world without end. Amen.

O GOD, whose dear Son Jesus Christ didst heal many children who were sick, send thy help to this child. Make him like Jesus, so that he will obey those who care for him. Help him to be quiet, and

patient, and cheerful. Quickly take away his pain and make him well again; that all his life he may glorify thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who didst show thy love by restoring to health the little ones who were brought unto thee, give thy blessing, we beseech thee, to the means now used for the healing of this thy child; that he may be restored to health and strength; and spared to a life of usefulness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Those who Care for the Sick

MERCIFUL LORD, we beseech thee to strengthen and support thy servants who are called to tend the sufferer and to watch beside the bed of sickness. Give them grace to fulfill their task with patient endurance and with loving tenderness. Comfort them in their weariness with the comfort of thy blessed spirit. Teach them how good and blessed a thing it is to be permitted to minister to the wants of the sick and suffering. May this season of self-denying labor be a season of much spiritual welfare to their own souls. May they learn lessons which shall be blessed to themselves. May they learn to number their days, and to seek the things above, and to choose the one thing needful, while health and strength are given to them; so that, when they shall in their turn be called to suffer and die, they may be able, with lowly submission and loving trust, to commit themselves into thy hands to do with them what thou wilt; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Aged

THE day is gone, and we give thanks, O Lord. Evening is at hand; make it bright unto us. As the day has its evening, so also has life. O Lord, make the evening of life bright unto thy servant. Cast him not away in the time of age; forsake him not when his strength faileth him. Abide with him, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far

spent of this fretful life. Let thy strength be made perfect in his weakness. Day is fled and gone; life too is going. Night cometh; and death cometh also. Near as is the end of day, so too the end of life. We beseech of thee, O Lord, bless to thy servant his closing days. Make them pure, and peaceful, and sinless, and if it please thee, painless. Into thy hands, O Lord, we commend thy servant, spirit, soul, and body. Thou didst make, and thou didst redeem him. Guard his lying down, and his rising up, from henceforth even forever. Let him remember thee on his bed, and search out his spirit. Let him wake up, and be present with thee. We ask all in the name of our only Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

—*Bishop Andrewes's Devotions.*

O GOD our heavenly Father, whose gift is length of days, help us to make the noblest use of mind and body in our advancing years. According to our strength apportion thou our work. As thou hast pardoned our transgressions, sift the ingatherings of our memory that evil may grow dim and good may shine forth clearly. We bless thee for thy gifts and especially for thy presence and the love of friends in heaven and earth. Grant us new ties of friendship, new opportunities of service, joy in the growth and happiness of children, sympathy with those who bear the burdens of the world, clear thought and quiet faith. Teach us to bear infirmities with cheerful patience. Keep us from narrow pride in outgrown ways, blind eyes that will not see the good of change, impatient judgments of the methods and experiments of others. Let thy peace rule our spirits through all the trial of our waning powers. Take from us all fear of death and all despair or undue love of life, that with glad hearts at rest in thee we may await thy will concerning us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, when our vision fails and our understanding is darkened, when the ways of life seem hard and the brightness of life is gone, grant to us the wisdom that deepens faith, and enlarges

trust. And whensoever thy ways in nature or in the soul are hard to be understood, then may our quiet confidence, our patient trust, our loving faith in thee be great, and as children knowing that they are loved and cared for, may we with a quiet mind at all times put our trust in thee. So shall we face life without fear, and death without faltering; and whatsoever may await us in the life to come, give us confident hope that whatsoever is best for us, both here and hereafter, is thy good pleasure, and will be thy law, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Communion of Saints

WE thank thee for the dear and faithful dead, for those who have made the distant heavens a home for us, and whose truth and beauty are even now in our hearts. One by one thou dost gather the scattered families out of the earthly light into the heavenly glory, from the distractions and strife and weariness of time to the peace of eternity. We thank thee for the labors and the joys of these mortal years. We thank thee for our deep sense of the mysteries that lie beyond our dust, and for the eye of faith which thou hast opened for all who believe in thy Son to outlook that mark. May we live altogether in thy faith and love, and in that hope which is full of Immortality. Amen.

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, we rejoice in the blessed communion of all thy saints, wherein thou givest us also to have part. We remember before thee all who have departed this life in thy faith and love, and especially those most dear to us. We thank thee for our present fellowship with them, for our common hope, and for the promise of future joy. O let the cloud of witnesses, the innumerable company of those who have gone before, and entered into rest, be to us for an example of godly life, and even now may we be refreshed with their joy; that so with patience we may run the race that yet remains before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; and

obtain an entrance into the everlasting kingdom, the glorious assembly of the saints, and with them ever worship and adore thy glorious name, world without end. Amen.

FATHER, we thank thee for the faithful souls that have blessed the world, whose lives shine as the light; holy ones who have feared God, who have bravely upheld the right, and generously lived for others' good; who have freely chosen suffering rather than sin, and felt thy favor to be better than life. O may their pure and noble lives animate and quicken our hearts. And in our souls may there burn a desire like them to become true children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers for Social Service

For Faithful Work

GRACIOUS GOD, remember us, we beseech thee, in our work this day. If it be thy will, give unto us a prosperous day. May all our work be well done. May we turn nothing out half done. May we glorify thee by honest good work; for the sake of Him who completed his work for us, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —*Rev. J. H. Jowett, A. D. 1911.*

For a Right Spirit in Work

HOLY FATHER, may I remember that this day I have to do more than make a living: I have to make a life! May I not spoil the one in seeking to gain the other! May the way in which I earn my daily bread also bring sustenance to my soul!

O LORD, renew our spirits and draw our hearts unto thyself that our work may not be to us a burden, but a delight; and give us such a mighty love to thee as may sweeten all our obedience. O let us not serve thee with the spirit of bondage as slaves, but with the cheerfulness and gladness of children, delighting ourselves in thee and rejoicing in thy work. Amen. —*Benjamin Jenks, 1646.*

O ALMIGHTY GOD and heavenly Father, who by thy divine providence hast appointed for each one of us our work in life, and hast commanded that we should not be slothful in business, but fervent in spirit, serving thee, help us always to remember that our work is thy appointment, and to do it heartily as unto thee. Preserve us from slothfulness, and make us to live with loins girded and lamps burning, that whensoever our Lord may come, we may be found striving earnestly to finish the work that thou hast given us to do; through the same Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen. —*Dean Goulburn, A. D. 1818.*

For the Church in Its Community

O CHRIST, thy church is planted in the heart of great and mighty cities where thy children dwell in multitudes. The need of these cities taxes the power of human organization and goes beyond the reach of unawakened love. Thy church has vast resources for the healing of these multitudes, for the awakening of citizens, for strengthening the hands of those who would transform their communities into cities of the living God. But we, the people of thy church, are not aroused. We content ourselves too often with conventional and inadequate service. We do not give ourselves with passion to the movements of democracy. We have not as yet opened our hearts with generous love to our brothers from other lands who have thronged to our shores. The menace of disease, the wretchedness of poverty, the anguish of unemployment, the cry of neglected children, the shame of inefficient government trouble us, but we do not rend our hearts. Arouse thy people, O Lord. Cause the trumpet to be sounded to thy church. Say to her again, Lift up thy voice. Give us vision, and strengthen us that we may hearten those who are battling for the life of the people. Send us into our communities as living forces of faith and courage and cooperation. Keep before us the vision of a redeemed society in which Christ shall reveal himself in the devoted lives of his followers. We ask it in his name. Amen. —*Worth M. Tippy.*

A General Intercession

O GOD, at whose word man goeth forth unto his work and to his labor until the evening, be merciful to all whose duties are difficult or burdensome, and comfort them concerning their toil. Shield from bodily accident and harm the workmen at their work. Protect the efforts of sober and honest industry, and suffer not the hire of the laborers to be kept back by fraud. Incline the hearts of employers and of those whom they employ to mutual forbearance, fairness, and good will. Give the spirit of governance and of a sound mind to all in places of authority. Bless all those who labor in works of mercy and schools of good learning. Care for all aged persons, and all little children, the sick and the afflicted, and those who travel by land or by sea. Remember all who by reason of weakness are overtasked, or because of poverty are forgotten. Let the sorrowful sighing of the prisoners come before thee, and according to the greatness of thy power preserve thou those that are appointed to die. Give ear unto our prayer, O merciful and gracious Father, for the love of thy dear Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

For International Brotherhood

O THOU who hast made of one blood all nations of men, help us to see the largeness and wisdom of thy ways. Thou dost love all men and dost yearn to bring them into the fullness of thine own rich life. They are all enfolded in thy plans. While we glory in the Christ whom thou hast given to us, preserve us, heavenly Father, from spiritual arrogance and race pride. May our eyes not be dim to the goodness and truth which thou hast revealed to others. Make us more like Christ who rejoiced in the faith of the Roman centurion and praised the noble deeds of the Good Samaritan. Open our eyes, O Lord, to the mystery revealed in Christ, and now proclaimed afresh in the contact of the races; the mystery that in thy kingdom Gentiles are fellow heirs with the Jews, heathen nations with the Christian. May the day

soon come when race pride and prejudice shall vanish from the earth and universal good-will prevail. Forgive, O Lord, our narrowness, our selfishness, our pride, and lead us into the fullness of thine own large heart and infinite life. Make us in truth thy children; through Christ our Lord. Amen. —*Sidney L. Gulick.*

For Children who Work

O THOU who through the childhood of thy Son, our Saviour, hast taught us the sanctity of child life, we pray unto thee for the children who work. By precept and example thou hast taught us the dignity of labor and the holiness of rest; suffer us not to profane the Sabbath of childhood, that thou hast instituted for man's development, by imposing burdens on the shoulders of children which they were not intended to bear, and by making old their faces before their years. As thou hast, by thy Holy Son, set before us a little child as the type of the inheritor of the kingdom of heaven, deliver us from the awful guilt of those who, in placing stumbling-blocks before thy little ones, hang millstones about their own necks. Forgive our own and our nation's sin against the children, and grant that from henceforth we may bear uncomplainingly our own burdens, and never, for greed of gain or weariness of life, shift them to shoulders younger and weaker than our own. And this we ask in the name and for the sake of thy Holy Child, Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen. —*Mornay Williams.*

For Women who Toil

O GOD, we pray thee for our sisters who are leaving the ancient shelter of the home to earn their wage in the factory and the store, amid the press of modern life. Save them from the strain of unremitting toil that would unfit them for the holy duties of home and motherhood which the future may lay upon them. Give them grace to cherish under the new surroundings the old sweetness and gentleness of womanhood and in the rough mingling of life to keep their hearts pure and their lives untarnished.

Save them from the terrors of utter want. Teach them to stand loyally by their sisters, that by united action they may better their common lot. If it must be so that our women toil like men, help us still to reverence in them the mothers of the future. But make us determined to shield them from unequal burdens, that the women of our nation be not drained of strength and hope for the enrichment of a few, lest our homes grow poor in the wifely sweetness and motherly love which have been the saving strength and glory of our country. To such as yearn for the love and sovereign freedom of their own homes grant in due time the fulfillment of their sweet desires. By Mary, the beloved, who bore the world's redemption in her bosom; by the memory of our own dear mothers who kissed our souls awake; by the little daughters who must soon go out into that world which we are now fashioning for others, we beseech thee that we may deal aright by all women.

—*Walter Rauschenbusch.*

For All Doctors and Nurses

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who hast power of life and death, of health and of sickness, give power, wisdom, and gentleness to all thy ministering servants, all physicians and surgeons, nurses and watchers by the sick, that, always bearing thy presence with them, they may not only heal but bless, and shine as lamps of hope in the darkest hours of distress and fear; who with the Father and the Holy Ghost livest and reignest ever one God, world without end. Amen.

—*Church Missionary Society, A. D. 1799.*

O MOST merciful and loving Jesus, who camest into the world to teach us the glory of self-sacrifice and service, grant to all those who are called to the sacred office of nursing and caring for the sick, that they may always remember that they are fellow-workers with thee. Give to them such patience, gentleness, tact, and love, that they may by the beauty of their lives win many sick and dying souls to thee,

who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost now and ever. Amen.

The Prayer of the Immigrant

O GOD, the Father of us humble folk, we need thy care. We are far from home, we are strangers and there is none to help us. Our women and children are weary with waiting; they crave a home and a place to rest. But thou, our God, hast quickened in our hearts this hope, this eager yearning for a better land, for fairer pay for the labor of our hands, for freedom, and for life. Sustain us. Speak to us, we beseech thee, through human lips that voice thy sympathy and loving care. Send us friends who shall surround us with thy protecting arm. Be tender toward those whom we have left behind, our loved ones too old to risk the unknown; the excluded, unfitted by adversity to endure the test. So hearten us that with cheerful mien we may give our best to the land of our adoption. And through all the trials and uncertainties of our new life, may we not lose our religious heritage, but endure patiently, and strive manfully, in the thought of Him who suffered and died that we might live. Amen. —*William P. Shriver.*

The Prayer of an American Negro

O THOU FATHER, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, hear the prayer of thy children. Hear thou our confession. Forgive the weakness of the flesh, the feebleness of will, the neglect of opportunity, the choice of the better rather than the best. Accept our gratitude. We thank thee for the way in which thou hast led us in these years of testing, from our ancestral home to this place of our sojourn. Though the way has often been rough, we now begin to see more clearly thy hand of love over all. Grant our petition. Grant us grace in the sight of those into whose hands thou hast delivered us. Thou hast made the white man our teacher; grant him wisdom and us patience. We look to him as a model; grant him rectitude of example and us discriminating judgment. Thou hast made us helpers

with him; grant him the spirit of unerring justice and us the spirit of unconquerable hope. We earnestly pray that through his generosity of heart under the operation of thy Spirit, and through our worth inwrought by thy grace, we may enjoy that fullness of economic, civic, social, educational, and spiritual opportunity by which we may be enabled to contribute our full share to the civilization of this land and the redemption of our brethren across the sea. In the name of Him who was the Son of man as well as the Son of God. Amen. —*H. H. Proctor.*

For Farmers

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast blessed the earth that it should be fruitful and bring forth everything necessary for the life of man, and hast commanded us to work with quietness and eat our own bread; bless us in all our labors, and grant us such seasonable weather that we may gather in the fruits of the earth, and ever rejoice in thy goodness, to the praise of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast promised in thy mercy that seed-time and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease, and hath blessed the earth that it should be fruitful and bring forth everything that is necessary for the life of man, bless all farmers in all their labors, and grant such seasonable weather that they may gather the fruits of the earth and ever rejoice in thy goodness, to the praise of thy holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HAVE mercy, O Lord, upon all those who labor in the cultivation of the earth, and grant that by the power of thy grace their own souls may be made fruitful unto all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THOU God of providence, grant to farmers and keepers of cattle good seasons; to the fleet and fishers fair weather; to tradesmen not to overreach

one another; to mechanics to pursue their business lawfully, even down to the humblest workman, even down to the poor; for Christ's sake. Amen.

—*Bishop Lancelot Andrewes, A. D. 1555.*

For Social Justice

IF I have withheld the poor from their desire, or have caused the eyes of the widow to fail; or have eaten my morsel myself alone, and the fatherless hath not eaten thereof; (for from my youth he was brought up with me, as with a father, and I have guided her from my mother's womb;) if I have seen any perish for want of clothing, or any poor without covering; if his loins have not blessed me, and if he were not warmed with the fleece of my sheep; if I have lifted up my hand against the fatherless, when I saw my help in the gate: then let mine arm fall from my shoulder blade, and mine arm be broken from the bone. —*Job 31. 16–22.*

For Justice and Brotherhood

O CHRIST, thou hast bidden us pray for the coming of thy Father's kingdom, in which his righteous will shall be done on earth. We have treasured thy words, but we have forgotten their meaning, and thy great hope has grown dim in thy church. We bless thee for the inspired souls of all ages who saw afar the shining city of God, and by faith left the profit of the present to follow their vision. We rejoice that to-day the hope of these lonely hearts is becoming the clear faith of millions. Help us, O Lord, in the courage of faith to seize what has now come so near, that the glad day of God may dawn at last. As we have mastered Nature that we might gain wealth, help us now to master the social relations of mankind that we may gain justice and a world of brothers. For what shall it profit our nation if it gain numbers and riches, and lose the sense of the living God and the joy of human brotherhood? Make us determined to live by truth and not by lies, to

found our common life on the eternal foundations of righteousness and love, and no longer to prop the tottering house of wrong by legalized cruelty and force. Help us to make the welfare of all the supreme law of our land, that so our commonwealth may be built strong and secure on the love of all its citizens. Cast down the throne of Mammon who ever grinds the life of men, and set up thy throne, O Christ, for thou didst die that men might live. Show thy erring children at last the way to the City of Love, and fulfill the longings of the prophets of humanity. Our Master, once more we make thy faith our prayer: "Thy kingdom come! Thy will be done on earth!"

—*Walter Rauschenbusch.*

For the Emancipation of Workers

O GOD, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, which do declare thy glory and show forth thy handiwork; make us thy faithful messengers and ministers, that we may run the way of thy commandments and do the work that thou hast given us to do, not with eye-service as men-pleasers, but in singleness of heart, as becometh the children of the Highest. We pray for the emancipation of workers everywhere from the discordant service of Mammon, and for the sanctification of labor in every calling and handicraft; that so all things may be done in righteousness, in truth and in beauty, for thy obedience and for human wealth, in humble imitation of him who is the Master-Workman of us all, and who sometime was among us as one that serveth, thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

For the Compassion of Jesus

LORD, help me to show toward my fellow men that kindness which I have so often craved from them. May I think of my neighbor not as my rival who would undo me, but as my brother who needs me. Give me the compassion of Jesus that I may never be able to turn coldly from any man who needs me. Make me quick to hear the cry of the suffering. Turn

my feet toward the house of sorrow. May I know the joy of carrying hope to hearts that have long been strangers to hope. I remember how lonely I have been in sickness: help me to relieve the loneliness of the sick. I remember how often I have longed for the touch of a friendly hand: help me to relieve the heart-hunger of the neglected. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

For Social Service

O LORD, our heavenly Father, who by thy blessed Son hast taught us that thou art Love, we beseech thee graciously to bless all those who, following his steps, give themselves to the service of their fellow men. Grant unto them clear vision to perceive those things which in our social order are amiss; give them true judgment, courage, and perseverance to help those to right that suffer wrong; and endue them with unfailing love to minister to the poor, the suffering, and the friendless. Make us sensible of our union one with another as thy children, that we may strive wisely to order all things among us according to thy will; for the sake of him who laid down his life for us, thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

For Temperance and Prohibition

For Temperance

MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, who desirest not the death of a sinner, but, rather, that he should turn from his wicked ways and live, have pity, we beseech thee, upon all miserable captives who are in bondage to drunkenness. Deliver them from the tyranny of that blind and wicked spirit, whereby their lives are confused and defiled, and they are driven into all manner of shameful deeds. Strengthen them to resist their besetting sin, and lead them into the liberty and purity of the sons of God. Direct and bless thy servants who fight against the cruel dominion of strong drink, according to the precepts of thy holy religion; and grant that all who minister to intemperance, and all

who are entangled in its net, may be converted to a godly, righteous, and sober life; through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

For Prohibition

O THOU God of nations and of men, women, and children, we look to thee to crown with victory the self-sacrificing and heroic work of the temperance forces of these United States. This hundred years of struggle on behalf of our poisoned brothers, tortured sisters, and the little ones, deserves to win. This is not our cause but thine. These tempted men and blighted women are thy children; Jesus has died for every one of them. These men and women who have put their time, money, earthly prospects, reputation, and martyr blood into this century-long campaign, were but following thy Son, our beloved Saviour, into the world's regeneration; they have denied themselves and taken up their cross daily, that they might fill up on their part all that was lacking in the suffering of Christ, to win this one epoch for righteousness, while the blood of the slaughtered millions has cried from the ground unto thee. May the enemies of righteousness be put to shame and the leaders of this redeeming movement be clothed with thy Spirit's power and leadership. Bless the churches organized and praying; may their resolutions be backed with noble living, consistent voting, and heroic doings; may every press inform, every platform inspire, every family altar sanctify the gifts of their people, and every pulpit blaze with a twentieth-century prophet's message. May thy people stand together; make prohibition prevail; elect to office those who can stand fire and act the part of thy men, redeem our flag from its stain, clear our hills and valleys of breweries and saloons, our towns and cities from drunkards and tipplers, our homes and hovels from drunkards' wives and offspring, and plant a purified church, an American school, and a Christian home where evil has held high carnival so long. These victories we ask in His name, who told us it were better that a millstone be hanged about our neck and we drowned in the midst

of the sea, than that one of the least of these should be made to stumble. And for permitting the millions of little ones to perish, and for all our bloody revenue, "thy mercy on thy people, Lord." Amen.

Dr. Clarence True Wilson, 1917

For Our Nation and Rulers

ALMIGHTY GOD, King of kings, and Lord of lords, from whom proceed all power and dominion in heaven and earth, most heartily we beseech thee to look with favor upon thy servants, the President of the United States, the governor of this State, and all others in authority. Imbue them with the spirit of wisdom, goodness, and truth; and so rule their hearts, and bless their endeavors, that law and order, justice and peace may everywhere prevail. Preserve us from public calamities, from pestilence and famine; from war, privy conspiracy, and rebellion, but especially from national sins and corruption. Make us strong and great in the fear of God, and in the love of righteousness, so that being blessed of thee, we may become a blessing to all nations, to the praise of the glory of thy grace, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

O GOD, our refuge and strength, who orderest all things in heaven and earth; look down with thy mercy upon us as a nation. Remember not our iniquities, nor the iniquities of our forefathers, neither take thou vengeance of our sins. Pour out upon us, and on all the people of this land, the spirit of grace and supplication, and join us together in piety, loyalty, and brotherly love. Direct the counsels and strengthen the hands of all in authority for the repression of crime and outrage, the maintenance of order and law, and of public peace and safety; so that, leading quiet lives in all godliness and honesty, we may be thy people, and thou mayest vouchsafe to be our God, and that we may bless and glorify thee, our Defender and Deliverer; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE humbly thank thee, Almighty God, for the many blessings which thou hast given to our country, and add this, O Lord, to thy other mercies, that we may be enabled to use them better to thy service. O take from among us all contempt of thy Word and commandments. Break down all the barriers of selfishness and ignorance which keep men from thee. Convince the impenitent of the misery of sin, and comfort the broken-hearted with the assurance of thy love. Teach us all to be evangelists, not in word only, but in everything which we do. This we ask in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Those in Authority

GOD of all power and might, the Maker and Ruler of men; we commend our nation to the guidance of thy wisdom, to the keeping of thy love. May the rulers whom thy people choose to serve them, serve thee in honesty of purpose and uprightness of life. May they never forget their answerableness to the people whom they serve and to that people's God. Deliver them from the love of power and from motives of personal gain; from considerations of men or money in place of the demands of truth and justice; and from losing patriotism in partisanship. Bless them in their ministry with an ever larger vision of truth, an ever deeper sense of the demands of righteousness; that through their faithfulness the life of our people may be guided by wise policies, and lifted to higher ideals and nobler achievements; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

RAISE up, O God, politicians who will fear thee and thee alone, and will thy will, and work thy work, fearless and faithful unto death in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

For Deliverance from National Sins

LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, defend our land, we beseech thee, from the secret power and the open shame of great national sins. From all dishonesty

and civic corruption; from all vainglory and selfish luxury, from all cruelty and the spirit of violence, from covetousness which is idolatry, from impurity which defiles the temple of the Holy Spirit, and from intemperance, which is the mother of many crimes and sorrows; good Lord, deliver and save us and our children, and our children's children, in the land which thou hast blessed with the light of pure religion; through Jesus Christ, our only Saviour and King. Amen.

For a Blessing on the Families of the Land

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, who settest the solitary in families, we commend to thy continual care the homes in which thy people dwell. Put far from them, we beseech thee, every root of bitterness, the desire of vainglory, and the pride of life. Fill them with faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness. Knit together in constant affection those who, in holy wedlock, have been made one flesh; turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to the fathers; and so kindle charity among us all, that we be evermore kindly affectioned with brotherly love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Courts of Justice

ALMIGHTY GOD, who sittest in the throne judging right, we humbly beseech thee to bless the courts of justice and the magistrates in all this land; and give unto them the spirit of wisdom and understanding that they may discern the truth, and impartially administer the law in the fear of thee alone; through him who shall come to be our judge, thy Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Memorial Days

O ALMIGHTY GOD, God of the spirits of all flesh, we give thee thanks for all those who have laid down their lives for home and country; and we commend them to thy Fatherly care and protection,

beseeching thee that we, with them, may have our portion in the life of the world to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Fourth of July

WE will sing unto thee, O Lord. Thou art our strength and song, and thou hast become our salvation. Thou art our fathers' God, and we will exalt thee. We recall with grateful hearts the work thou didst begin and carry forward for our fathers. They came from beyond the seas. They were planted in the mountain of thine inheritance. Thou overcamest their enemies. Thou didst put strength and courage and hope in their hearts. They wrought diligently and fought bravely, and triumphed gloriously. And we their children do give thee praise on this our nation's natal day. Forgive our sins and save us from our enemies—the enemies of false ambition, unholy lust, pride, unbelief, and irreligion. May this, O Lord, be the sanctuary which thou hast established, and do thou rule over our rulers and our people, and make this land thy land forever—the land of freedom and righteousness. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who on this day didst direct and inspire the hearts of our fathers to set forth the independence of these United States, we give all glory and praise to thee, the Author of our liberty, and the sure Defense of our safety. We pray that by thy grace we may be enabled to build wisely upon these foundations of freedom and of peace: that we may hold our liberties in due subjection to thy law, and in all things seek that righteousness which exalteth a nation. Kindle in our hearts the pure flame of sacrifice to our country's needs; and grant that the fires of our patriotism may shine as beacon lights upon thy holy hills, O God, and may point the ways of men toward that universal brotherhood, when the nations of the world shall be one in Jesus Christ our Lord.

In Time of Calamity

O GOD, merciful and compassionate, who art ever ready to hear the prayers of those who put their trust in thee, graciously hearken to us who call upon thee, and grant us thy help in this our need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who art a very present help in time of trouble; let not the heart of thy people fail when fear cometh, but do thou sustain and comfort them until these calamities be overpast: and since thou knowest the cause and reason why this grievous disaster [of fire, flood, earthquake, shipwreck, or other trouble] hath fallen upon men, so do thou heal the hurt and wounded, console the bereaved and afflicted, protect the innocent and helpless, and deliver any who are still in peril, for thy great mercy's sake. Amen.

During an Epidemic

O ALMIGHTY GOD, we implore thy help in this our great need. Pardon us for all the carelessness and neglect of thy laws which may have brought upon us this terrible disease, and inspire us to amend our ways. Guide all who are studying how to prevent, as well as to cure, such sickness. Quicken to repentance those who, by willful indifference or selfishness, are responsible for the incursion of illness, and, if it be thy good will, assuage the virulence of this present calamity, and grant that we may learn by it to seek more diligently to do thy bidding, and to live in humble dependence upon thee who art our Father, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

In Time of War

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, who from thy throne dost behold all the dwellers upon earth, look down with pity upon those on whom have fallen the miseries of war. Have compassion on the wounded and dying; comfort the broken-hearted; assuage the madness of the nations; make war to cease; give peace in our time, O Lord, we ask it in the name

of Him who is the Prince of Peace, even thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. —*Adapted.*

Prayer For Victory

ALMIGHTY and all-holy God, who hast granted to our country freedom and established our nation in righteousness by the people's will, we humbly beseech thee to bless her in the defense of that liberty for herself and for her sister-nations. Keep thy servant, the President of these United States, and all chosen leaders under thy governance and protection. Purify and unite the hearts of all our people in war against war. Bless and preserve the men who go forth to fight in the good cause, and the men and women at home who work for the same end. Save us from all dissension, privy conspiracy, and treason. Uphold and strengthen the nations by whose side we have come to stand in this fiery trial. Have mercy on our enemies and turn their hearts to see the evil of their way and abandon the folly of their iniquity. O, God of justice and of love, we submit our cause to thee. Give victory to the right. Have compassion on the sufferings of mankind. Help us to hasten the day when the peoples of the world shall dwell secure in freedom and a true and durable peace. This we beg in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Dr. Henry van Dyke, 1917.*

For the Army

O LORD GOD OF HOSTS, stretch forth, we pray thee, thine almighty arm to strengthen and protect the soldiers of our country; support them in the day of battle, and in the time of peace keep them safe from all evil; endue them with courage and loyalty, and grant that in all things they may serve without reproach; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GRANT that our soldiers may be brave in battle, high-hearted in hardships, dauntless in defeat, gentle in victory. Remember those who have trained themselves in peace to help their country in war, and give them skill and courage, endurance and self-con-

trol, in the work now set them. We ask it in the name and for the sake of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

For the Navy

O ETERNAL LORD GOD, who alone spreadest out the heavens, and rulest the raging of the sea; vouchsafe to take into thy almighty and most gracious protection our country's navy, and all who serve therein. Preserve them from the dangers of the sea, and from the violence of the enemy, that they may be a safeguard unto the United States of America, and a security for such as pass on the seas upon their lawful occasions; that the inhabitants of our land may in peace and quietness serve thee our God; to the glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Soldier's Prayer

LORD, thou seest how I am a soldier for my country and for thee. It is thy battle I am in. I feel the thrill of it. Thou art thyself a Soldier and a Captain, the Captain of Salvation. I am fighting for the salvation of the world. Thou wilt give me help, that I know right well. I, a soldier, come to thee, The Soldier, praying for help to be the soldier I ought to be. Help me, my Captain, to be valiant, chaste, considerate, humane, manly, a son not ashamed when he meets his mother and his father when the battle is done, and a soldier not ashamed to meet his God. Bless my dear native land, and help me to fight with valor for its safety, its health, its perpetuity; and if I die fighting, bring me, by thy grace, to thyself in heaven, I pray in Christ, my Saviour, Amen!

—*Bishop William A. Quayle, 1917.*

For Chaplains[1]

REMEMBER, O Lord, all whom thou hast called to minister to the souls of those engaged in warfare. Give to them great gifts and holiness, that with wisdom and charity, diligence and zeal, they may open

[1]For Prayers for Nurses, see page 174.

the eyes of the blind, comfort those who suffer, and speak peace to the dying. Grant them thy grace to strengthen the weak, and to confirm the strong, that in all their ministrations, in all their life and conversation, they may shepherd the souls committed to their care, and advance the honor of our Saviour and his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Bishop Taylor Smith, Nineteenth Century.*

For Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving and Praise

THOU hast given so much to us, give one thing more, a grateful heart; for Christ's sake. Amen.

—*George Herbert, A. D. 1593.*

WE thank thee, O Lord our Lord, for our being, our life, our gift of reason; for our nurture, our preservation and guidance; for our education, civil rights, and religious privileges; for thy gifts of grace, of nature, of this world; for our redemption, regeneration, and instruction in the Christian faith; for our calling, recalling, and our manifold renewed recallings for thy forbearance and long-suffering. Thy prolonged forbearance many a time and many a year. For all the benefits we have received, and all the undertakings wherein we have prospered; for any good we may have done; for the use of the blessing of this life; for thy promise, and our hope of the enjoyment of good things to come; for good and honest parents, gentle teachers, benefactors ever to be remembered, congenial companions, intelligent hearers, sincere friends, faithful servants; for all who have profited us by their writings, sermons, conversations, prayers, examples, reproofs, injuries. For all these, and also for all other mercies, known and unknown, open and secret, remembered by us or now forgotten, kindnesses received by us willingly or even against our will. We praise thee, we bless thee, we thank thee, and will praise and bless and thank thee all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—*Bishop Lancelot Andrewes, A. D. 1555.*

Harvest Thanksgiving

O ALMIGHTY GOD and heavenly Father, we glorify thee that thou hast again fulfilled to us thy gracious promise, that while the earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest shall not fail. We bless thee for the kindly fruits of the earth, which thou hast given to our use. Teach us, we beseech thee, to remember that it is not by bread alone that man doth live, and grant us evermore to feed on Him who is the true Bread from heaven, even Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee, and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

—*Prayer Book of the Church of Ireland, A. D. 1877.*

O ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hast blessed the labors of the husbandman, and given unto us the fruits of the earth in their season, grant us grace to use the same to thy glory, to the relief of those that are needy, and to our own comfort; through Jesus Christ, who is the living Bread which cometh down from heaven and giveth life unto the world; to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving after Harvest

WE give thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, for all thy goodness, and especially for this thy bounty again bestowed upon us, who, through thy providence and tender mercy toward us, have now reaped the fruits of the earth in due season, and gathered them into our garners. Continue, we beseech thee, thy lovingkindness toward us, that year by year our land may yield her increase, filling our hearts with food and gladness, to the comfort of thy people and the glory of thy holy name; and so dispose us by thy special grace, that we thy servants may never sow to the flesh alone, lest of the flesh we reap corruption, but may sow to the Spirit, and of the Spirit reap life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Order of Public Worship

Methodist Episcopal Church

Let all services begin exactly at the time appointed, and let the people kneel in silent prayer on entering the sanctuary.

I. [Voluntary, instrumental or vocal.][1]

II. Singing from the Methodist Hymnal, the People standing.

III. [The Apostles' Creed, recited by all, standing.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic[1] Church, the communion of saints; the forgivenes of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.]

IV. Prayer, concluding with the Lord's Prayer, repeated audibly by all, both Minister and People kneeling.

V. [Anthem, or Voluntary.]

VI. Lesson from the Old Testament, which may be read responsively, the People standing.

VII. [The Gloria Patri:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.]

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[1] Parts inclosed in brackets may be used or omitted.

[2] The one universal Church of Christ.

VIII. Lesson from the New Testament.

IX. Notices, followed by Collection; during or after which an Offertory may be rendered.

X. Singing from the Methodist Hymnal, the People standing.

XI. The Sermon.

XII. Prayer, the People kneeling.

XIII. Singing from the Methodist Hymnal, the People standing.

XIV. Doxology and the Apostolic Benediction. (2 Cor. 13. 14.)

§ 2. At the service during which the Sacraments are administered any of the items of the preceding order may be omitted except singing, prayer, and the apostolic benediction.

§ 3. Let the people be earnestly exhorted to take part in the public worship of God; first, by singing; second, by prayer, in the scriptural attitude of kneeling, and by the repetition of the Lord's Prayer.

The Order of Worship—Wesley Sunday Service

EDITION OF 1784

1. Scripture Sentence.
2. Invitation to Prayer: "Dearly beloved brethren,"—
3. General Confession. *All kneeling.*
4. Prayer for Absolution.
5. The Lord's Prayer, and Versicles: "O Lord, open thou," etc.
6. Gloria Patri, and Alleluia: "Praise ye," etc.
7. The Psalm for the Day, and the Gloria Patri.
8. The First Lesson. Old Testament.
9. *Morning,* Te Deum. *Evening,* Psalm 98, Gloria Patri.
10. The Second Lesson. New Testament.
11. *Morning,* The Hundredth Psalm, and the Gloria Patri. *Evening,* Psalm 67, Gloria Patri.
12. The Apostles' Creed. *Standing.*
13. The Salutation: "The Lord be with you," etc.; and Suffrages: "Lord, have mercy," etc.
14. Three Collects: Of the Day; For Peace; and For Grace to Live Well, or For Aid against all Perils.
15. Prayers for Supreme Rulers and for All Conditions of Men.
16. A General Thanksgiving.
17. Prayer of St. Chrysostom.
18. Benediction: "The Grace of our Lord." 2 Cor. 13. 14.

THE WESLEY SUNDAY SERVICE

ORIGINAL PREFACE

I *BELIEVE* there is no LITURGY in the World, either in ancient or modern language, which breathes more of a solid, Scriptural, rational Piety than the COMMON PRAYER of the CHURCH OF ENGLAND. And though the main of it was compiled considerably more than two hundred years ago, yet is the language of it not only pure, but strong and elegant in the highest degree.

Little alteration is made in the following edition of it (which I recommend to our SOCIETIES in AMERICA), except in the following instances:

1. Most of the holy days (so called) are omitted, as at present answering no valuable end.

2. The Service of the LORD'S DAY, the length of which has been often complained of, is considerably shortened.

3. Some sentences in the offices of Baptism, and for the Burial of the Dead, are omitted; and,

4. Many Psalms left out, and many parts of the others, as being highly improper for the mouths of a Christian Congregation.

JOHN WESLEY.

Bristol, Sept. 9, 1784.

WESLEY'S TABLE OF

PROPER LESSONS ON SUNDAYS

TO BE READ AT MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

SUNDAYS	MORNING		EVENING	
In Advent				
The First	Isaiah	1	Isaiah	2
2		5		24
3		25		26
4		30		32
After Christmas				
The First		37		38
2		41		43
3		44		46
4		51		53
5		55		56
6		57		58
7		59		64
8		65		66
9	Genesis	1	Genesis	2
10		3		6
11		7		18
12		19 to v. 30		22
13		24		37
14		39		42
15		43		44 and 45
Before Easter				
1 Lesson	Exodus	9	Exodus	10
2 Lesson	Matthew	26	Hebrews	5 to v. 11
Easter Day				
1 Lesson	Exodus	12	Exodus	14
2 Lesson	Romans	6	Acts	2 v. 22
After Easter				
The First	Numbers	16	Numbers	22
2		23 and 24		25
3	Deuteronomy	4	Deuteronomy	5
4		6		7
5		8		9
After Ascension Day		12		13
Whitsunday				
1 Lesson		16 to v. 18	Isaiah	11
2 Lesson	Acts	10 v. 34	Acts	19 to v. 21
Trinity Sunday				
1 Lesson	Genesis	1	Genesis	18
2 Lesson	Matthew	3	1 John	5
After Trinity Sunday				
The First	Joshua	10	Joshua	23
2	Judges	4	Judges	5
3	1 Samuel	2	1 Samuel	3
4		12		13
5		15		17
6	2 Samuel	12	2 Samuel	19
7		21		24
8	1 Kings	13	1 Kings	17
9		18		19

SUNDAYS	MORNING		EVENING	
After Trinity Sunday				
10		21		22
11	2 Kings	5	2 Kings	9
12		10		18
13		19		23
14	Jeremiah	5	Jeremiah	22
15		35		36
16	Ezekiel	2	Ezekiel	13
17		14		18
18		20		24
19	Daniel	3	Daniel	6
20	Joel	2	Micah	6
21	Habakkuk	2	Proverbs	1
22	Proverbs	2		3
23		11		12
24		13		14
25		15		16
26		17		19

☞ Let the Second Lesson in the Morning be a Chapter of the Four Gospels, and the Acts of the Apostles and the Second Lesson in the Evening be a Chapter out of the Epistles, in regular Rotation; excepting where it is otherwise provided.

PROPER LESSONS FOR PARTICULAR DAYS

	MORNING	EVENING
Nativity of Christ		
1 Lesson	Isaiah 9 to v. 8	Isaiah 7 v. 10 to v. 17
2 Lesson	Luke 2 to v. 15	Titus 3 v. 4 to v. 9
Good Friday		
1 Lesson	Genesis 22 to v. 20	Isaiah 53
2 Lesson	John 18	1 Peter 2
Ascension Day		
1 Lesson	Deuteronomy 10	2 Kings 2
2 Lesson	Luke 24 v. 44	Ephesians 4 to v. 17

PROPER PSALMS ON CERTAIN DAYS

	Morning	*Evening*		*Morning*	*Evening*
Advent Sunday.....	8, 50	96, 97	Ascension...	8, 15	24, 47
Christmas Day.....	19, 45, 85	89	Whitsunday	48, 68	104, 145
Epiphany ...	46, 47, 48	72, 117, 135	Trinity Sunday.....	29, 33	93, 97, 150
Good Friday.	22, 40	69	Transfiguration.....	27, 61, 93	84, 99, 133
Easter Even.	4, 16, 17	30, 31	St. Michael and All Angels....	91, 103	34, 148
Easter Day..	2, 57, 111	113, 114, 118	All Saints...	1, 15, 146	112, 121, 149

EPISTLES AND GOSPELS FOR HOLY WEEK

Monday before Easter	For the Epistle, Isa. 63. 1-19. The Gospel, St. Mark 14. 1-72.
Tuesday before Easter	For the Epistle, Isa. 50. 5-11. The Gospel, St. Mark 15. 1-39.
Wednesday before Easter	The Epistle, Heb. 9. 16-28. The Gospel, St. Luke 22. 1-71.
Thursday before Easter	The Epistle, 1 Cor. 11. 17-34. The Gospel, St. Luke 23. 1-49.
Easter Even	The Epistle, 1 Peter 3. 17-22. The Gospel, St. Matt. 27. 57-66.

NUMBERED SELECTIONS

TO BE READ AT DISCRETION INSTEAD OF THE PSALMS FOR THE DAY

	PAGE
1. Psalms 1, 91	138
2. Psalms 19 and 119 v. 97	140
3. Psalms 23, 65, 107 v. 31	142
4. Psalms 32, 130, 121	145
5. Psalms 51, 42	147
6. Psalms 66, 107 v. 21	150
7. Psalms 72, 96	152
8. Psalm 80	154
9. Psalms 81, 82	156
10. Psalms 84, 122	158
11. Psalms 85, 93, 97	159
12. Psalms 148, 149, 150	162
13. Job 28	163
14. From Proverbs 3, 4	165
15. Proverbs 8	168
16. From Isaiah 11, 42	170
17. From Isaiah 35, 40	172
18. Isaiah 52	175
19. Isaiah 53	177
20. Isaiah 55	178
21. Isaiah 60	180
22. From St. Matthew 5	182
23. From St. John 14	184
24. From Romans 8, Revelation 7	187
25. From St. John 15, 1 Corinthians 13	189
26. From 1 John 3, 2 Corinthians 4, Revelation 21	192
27. Revelation 22	194
28. Children's Service	197
29. The Sabbath	199
30. Temperance	203
31. Ten Commandments and Responses	206

RULES

TO KNOW WHEN THE MOVABLE FEASTS AND HOLY-DAYS BEGIN

EASTER DAY, on which the rest depend, is always the First *Sunday* after the Full Moon which happens upon or next after the Twenty-first Day of *March;* and if the Full Moon happen upon a *Sunday, Easter Day* is the *Sunday* after.

Advent Sunday is always the nearest *Sunday* to the Feast of St. Andrew, whether before or after.

Septuagesima *Sexagesima* *Quinquagesima* *Quadragesima*	*Sunday*	Nine Weeks Eight Weeks Seven Weeks Six Weeks	Before *Easter.*
Rogation Sunday *Ascension Day* *Whitsunday* *Trinity Sunday*	is	Five Weeks Forty Days Seven Weeks Eight Weeks	After *Easter.*

TABLE OF IMMOVABLE FEASTS IN THE CHRISTIAN YEAR

1. The Circumcision of Christ, Jan. 1.
2. The Epiphany, Jan. 6.
3. The Conversion of St. Paul, Jan. 25.
4. The Purification, Feb. 2.
5. Annunciation to the Virgin, March 25.
6. St. Mark, April 25.
7. SS. Philip and James, May 1.
8. St. Barnabas, June 11.
9. St. John Baptist, June 24.
10. St. Peter, June 29.
11. St. James, July 25.
12. The Transfiguration, Aug. 6.
13. St. Bartholomew, Aug. 24.
14. St. Matthew, Sept. 21.
15. St. Michael and all Angels, Sept. 29.
16. St. Luke, Oct. 18.
17. SS. Simon and Jude, Oct. 28.
18. All Saints, Nov. 1.
19. St. Andrews, Nov. 30.
20. St. Thomas, Dec. 21.
21. The Nativity of our Lord, Dec. 25.
22. St. Stephen, Dec. 26.
23. St. John Evangelist, Dec. 27.
24. The Holy Innocents, Dec. 28.

A TABLE

SHOWING THE DAYS ON WHICH EASTER WILL FALL FROM THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1891 TO THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1944, BOTH INCLUSIVE

YEAR OF OUR LORD	EASTER DAY	YEAR OF OUR LORD	EASTER DAY	YEAR OF OUR LORD	EASTER DAY
1891	March 29	1909	April 11	1927	April 17
1892	April 17	1910	March 27	1928	" 8
1893	" 2	1911	April 16	1929	March 31
1894	March 25	1912	" 7	1930	April 20
1895	April 14	1913	March 23	1931	" 5
1896	" 5	1914	April 12	1932	March 27
1897	" 18	1915	" 4	1933	April 16
1898	" 10	1916	" 23	1934	" 1
1899	" 2	1917	" 8	1935	" 21
1900	" 15	1918	March 31	1936	" 12
1901	" 7	1919	April 20	1937	March 28
1902	March 30	1920	" 4	1938	April 17
1903	April 12	1921	March 27	1939	" 9
1904	" 3	1922	April 16	1940	March 24
1905	" 23	1923	" 1	1941	April 13
1906	" 15	1924	" 20	1942	" 5
1907	March 31	1925	" 12	1943	" 25
1908	April 19	1926	" 4	1944	" 9

THE SUNDAY SERVICE

THE ORDER FOR

Morning and Evening Prayer

¶ *At the beginning of Morning and Evening Prayer, the Minister shall read with a loud Voice some one or more of these Sentences of the Scriptures that follow. And then he shall say that which is written after the said Sentences.*

¶ *On any day when the Holy Communion is immediately to follow, the Minister may, at his discretion, pass at once from the Sentences to the Lord's Prayer, first pronouncing,* The Lord be with you. *Answer.* And with thy spirit. *Minister.* Let us pray.

¶ NOTE, *That a Processional Hymn may be sung as the Minister and Choir enter the Church, the Congregation rising and joining in the same. When it is more convenient this Hymn may be announced and sung before the reading of the Scripture Sentences.*

WHEN the wicked man turneth away from his wickedness that he hath committed, and doeth that which is lawful and right, he shall save his soul alive. (Ezek. 18. 27.)

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. (Psalm 51. 17.)

To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him; neither have we obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in his laws which he set before us. (Dan. 9. 9, 10.)

I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. (St. Luke 15. 18, 19.)

Enter not into judgment with thy servant, O Lord; for in thy sight shall no man living be justified. (Psalm 143. 2.)

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us; but if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1. 8, 9.)

The Lord is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him. (Hab. 2. 20.)

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord. (Psalm 122. 1.)

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. (Psalm 19. 14.)

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. (Phil. 1. 2.)

Advent. Repent ye: for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand. (St. Matt. 3. 2.)

Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. (Isa. 40. 3.)

Christmas. Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. (St. Luke 2. 10, 11.)

Epiphany. From the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my Name shall be great among the Gentiles; and in every place incense shall be offered unto my Name, and a pure offering: for my Name shall be great among the heathen, saith the Lord of hosts. (Mal. 1. 11.)

Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem. (Isa. 52. 1.)

Good Friday. Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow which is done unto me, wherewith the Lord hath afflicted me. (Lam. 1. 12.)

Easter. He is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. (St. Mark 16. 6; St. Luke 24. 34.)

This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 118. 24.)

Ascension. Seeing that we have a great High Priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need. (Heb. 4. 14, 16.)

Whitsunday. Because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. (Gal. 4. 6.)

There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacles of the Most High. (Psalm 46. 4.)

The hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth. (St. John 4. 23.)

Trinity Sunday. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. (Rev. 4. 8.)

¶ *Then the Minister shall say,*

DEARLY beloved brethren, the Scripture moveth us, in sundry places, to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloak them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy. [*And although we ought, at all times, humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul.] Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart, and humble voice, unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying—

¶ *Or else he shall say as followeth,*

LET us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

A General Confession.

¶ *To be said by the whole Congregation, after the Minister, all Kneeling.*

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father; we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou them, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou them that are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; To the glory of thy holy name. Amen.

¶ *Then the Minister shall say,*

O LORD, we beseech thee, absolve thy people from their offenses; that, through thy bountiful goodness, we may be delivered from the bonds of those sins which by our

*Omitted by Mr. Wesley and restored in the Wesleyan Prayer Book.

frailty we have committed. Grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour.

¶ *The People shall answer here, and at the end of all other prayers,* Amen.

¶ *Then the Minister shall say the* LORD'S PRAYER; *the People also repeating it with him, both here, and wheresoever else it is used in Divine Service.*

¶ *Then likewise he shall say,*

O Lord, open thou our lips.
Answer. And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
Minister. O God, make speed to save us;
Answer. O Lord, make haste to help us.

¶ *Here, all standing up, the Minister shall say,*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Answer. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Minister. Praise ye the Lord.

Answer. The Lord's name be praised.

¶ *Then* MAY BE *said or sung the following Anthem, except when some other is appointed, and except also when it is used in the course of the Psalms, on the eighteenth day of the month.*

**Venite, exultemus Domino.*

O COME, let us sing unto the Lord: let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving: and show ourselves glad in him with Psalms.

For the Lord is a great God: and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are all the corners of the earth: and the strength of the hills is his also.

The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands prepared the dry land.

O come, let us worship, and fall down: and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is the Lord our God: and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth: and with righteousness to judge the world, and the people with his truth.

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* Restored in the Wesleyan Prayer Book.

¶ *Then shall follow the Psalms, in order as they are appointed, or one of the Selections. And at the end of every Psalm, and likewise at the end of the Venite, Benedicite, Benedictus, Jubilate, Cantate,* MAY BE, *and at the end of the whole Portion of Psalms for the day, or other Selections,* SHALL BE *said or sung the* GLORIA PATRI:

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

¶ *Then shall be read distinctly the First Lesson taken out of the Old Testament, as is appointed; he that readeth, so standing, and turning himself, as he may best be heard of all. After which shall be said or sung at* MORNING PRAYER *the following Hymn, or the Benedicite.* See page 1.

¶ NOTE, *That before every Lesson, the Minister shall say,* Here beginneth such a chapter [or verse of such a chapter] of such a book; *and after every Lesson, Here endeth the First* [or the Second] Lesson.

Te Deum laudamus.

WE praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.

All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.

To thee all angels cry aloud; the Heavens, and all the Powers therein.

To thee Cherubim and Seraphim continually do cry,

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;

Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty of thy glory.

The glorious company of the Apostles praise thee.

The goodly fellowship of the Prophets praise thee.

The noble army of Martyrs praise thee.

The holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge thee;

The Father of an infinite Majesty;

Thine adorable, true, and only Son;

Also the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.

Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ;

Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.

When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man, thou didst humble thyself to be born of a Virgin.

When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death, thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

Thou sittest at the right hand of God, in the glory of the Father.

We believe that thou shalt come to be our Judge.

We therefore pray thee, help thy servants, whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.

Make them to be numbered with thy Saints, in glory everlasting.
O Lord, save thy people, and bless thine heritage.
Govern them, and lift them up forever.
Day by day we magnify thee;
And we worship thy Name ever, world without end.
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lord, let thy mercy be upon us, as our trust is in thee.
O Lord, in thee have I trusted: let me never be confounded.

¶ *And at* EVENING PRAYER, *instead of the Te Deum, shall be used one of the following Hymns, or the Bonum est.* See page 2.

Magnificat. St. Luke 1. 46.

MY soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him, throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel; as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, forever.
Glory be to the Father,—

¶ *Or this,*

Cantate Domino. Psalm 98.

O SING unto the Lord a new song: for he hath done marvelous things.
With his own right hand, and with his holy arm, hath he gotten himself the victory.
The Lord declared his salvation: his righteousness hath he openly showed in the sight of the heathen.
He hath remembered his mercy and truth toward the house of Israel; and all the ends of the world have seen the salvation of our God.

Show yourselves joyful unto the Lord, all ye lands: sing, rejoice, and give thanks.

Let the sea make a noise, and all that therein is; the round world, and they that dwell therein.

Let the floods clap their hands, and let the hills be joyful together before the Lord: for he cometh to judge the earth.

With righteousness shall he judge the world; and the people with equity.

¶ *Then shall be read in like manner the Second Lesson, taken out of the New Testament: and after that, at* MORNING PRAYER, *one of the following Hymns.*

Benedictus. St. Luke 1. 68.

BLESSED be the Lord God of Israel: for he hath visited and redeemed his people;

And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us: in the house of his servant David;

As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets: which have been since the world began;

That we should be saved from our enemies; and from the hand of all that hate us.

To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers: and to remember his holy covenant;

To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham, that he would give us;

That we, being delivered out of the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear;

In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.

And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;

To give knowledge of salvation unto his people, for the remission of their sins,

Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us:

To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death; and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father,—

¶ *Or this,*

Jubilate Deo.

O BE joyful in the Lord, all ye lands: serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath

made us and not we ourselves: we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting: and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

¶ *And at* EVENING PRAYER, *instead of the foregoing, shall be said or sung one of the following Hymns, or the Benedic, Anima Mea.* See page 3.

Nunc Dimittis. St. Luke 2. 29.

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles; and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father,—

¶ *Or this,*

Deus misereatur. Psalm 67.

GOD be merciful unto us, and bless us; and show us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us.

That thy way may be known upon earth; thy saving health among all nations.

Let the people praise thee, O God: yea, let all the people praise thee.

O let the nations rejoice and be glad; for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth.

Let the people praise thee, O God: yea, let all the people praise thee.

Then shall the earth bring forth her increase; and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.

God shall bless us; and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

¶ *Then shall be said the* APOSTLES' CREED *by the Minister and the People, standing: Except on Easter Day, Whitsunday, Trinity Sunday, and Christmas Day, and upon those days when the Holy Communion is to be celebrated, when the Nicene Creed may be used instead thereof.*

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; Born of the Virgin Mary;

Suffered under Pontius Pilate; Was crucified, dead, and buried: [*He descended into hell;] The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body; And the Life everlasting. Amen.

¶ *Or this,*

†*The Nicene Creed.*

I BELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God; Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God; Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried: And the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father: And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one Catholic and Apostolic Church: I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins: And I look for the Resurrection of the dead: And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

¶ *And after that the Minister shall pronounce with a loud voice,*

The Lord be with you;
Answer. And with thy spirit.
Minister. Let us pray.
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Answer. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Minister. Lord, have mercy upon us.

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*Retained by Mr. Wesley.

†Restored to the service by the Wesleyan Church.

¶ *Then the Minister* MAY SAY,

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
Answer. And grant us thy salvation.
Minister. O Lord, save the State.
Answer. And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Minister. Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.
Answer. And make thy chosen people joyful.
Minister. O Lord, save thy people.
Answer. And bless thine inheritance.
Minister. Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Answer. Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
Minister. O God, make clean our hearts within us.
Answer. And take not thy holy Spirit from us.

¶ *Then shall follow three Collects: the first of the Day, which shall be the same that is appointed at the Communion; the second for Peace; the third for Grace to live well; or, for Aid against all Perils, as followeth: all devoutly kneeling.*

The Second Collect, MORNING PRAYER.

For Peace.

O GOD, who art the author of peace, and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom; Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Third Collect, MORNING PRAYER.

For Grace.

O LORD, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day; Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin; neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that which is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Second Collect, EVENING PRAYER.

For Peace.

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by

thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

The Third Collect, EVENING PRAYER.

For Aid against all Perils.

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

¶ *Here, when convenient, may be sung a Hymn or Anthem; the Offertory also received, and reverently brought to the Minister, the Congregation meantime rising; and it shall be placed on the Table, with Singing or Prayer as he may direct.*

¶ NOTE, *That when a Sermon or the Communion is to follow, the Hymn may be sung after the Prayer of Blessing,* The Grace of our Lord—2 Cor. 13. 14.

¶ *The Minister may here end the Morning or Evening Prayer with such Prayer or Prayers as he shall think fit, closing with* The Grace of our Lord—.

A Prayer for the President of the United States, and all in Civil Authority.

O LORD, our heavenly Father, high and mighty, King of kings, Lord of lords, who dost from thy throne behold all the dwellers upon earth; Most heartily we beseech thee, with thy favor to behold and bless thy servant The President of the United States, and all others in authority; and so replenish them with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, that they may always incline to thy will, and walk in thy way. Endue them plenteously with heavenly gifts; grant them in health and prosperity long to live; and finally, after this life, to attain everlasting joy and felicity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ *The following Prayers shall be omitted here when the Litany is said, and may be omitted when the Holy Communion is immediately to follow.*

A Prayer for Ministers and People.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who alone workest great marvels; Send down upon our Bishops and all Ministers of thy Gospel, and upon the Congregations committed to their charge, the healthful Spirit of thy grace; and, that they may truly please thee, pour upon them the continual dew of thy blessing. Grant this, O Lord, for the honor of our Advocate and Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for all Conditions of Men.

O GOD, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind, we humbly beseech thee for all sorts and conditions of men; that thou wouldest be pleased to make thy ways known unto them, thy saving health unto all nations. More especially we pray for thy holy Church universal; that it may be so guided and governed by thy good Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians, may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life. Finally, we commend to thy fatherly goodness, all those who are any ways afflicted or distressed in mind, body, or estate [*especially those for whom our prayers are desired], that it may please thee to comfort and relieve them, according to their several necessities; giving them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

** This is to be said when any desire the prayers of the congregation.*

A General Thanksgiving.

ALMIGHTY God, Father of all mercies, we, thine unworthy servants, do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and loving-kindness to us, and to all men; [*particularly to those who desire now to offer up their praises and thanksgivings for thy late mercies vouchsafed unto them.] We bless thee for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we may show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

** This to be said when any desire to return thanks to God.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom.

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace, at this time, with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise, that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name, thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting

us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

2 Cor. 13. 14.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Here endeth the Order of Morning and Evening Prayer.
¶ *When a Sermon is to follow, the Minister shall make use of* HYMNS *and* PRAYERS *before and after the same, at his discretion.*

Prayers

FOR VARIOUS OCCASIONS.

To be used chiefly before the General Thanksgiving, or before the final Prayer of Blessing, or the Benediction.

A Prayer for the Whole State of Christ's Church Militant here on Earth.

¶ *Appointed by Mr. Wesley to be said immediately after the Offertory at the Communion Service: first saying,* Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church Militant, etc.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLIVING GOD, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks for all men; We humbly beseech thee most mercifully [*to accept our alms and oblations, and] to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: and grant that all those who do confess thy Holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. We beseech thee also to save and defend all Christian Kings, Princes, and Governors; and especially thy Servants, the Supreme Rulers of these United States; that under them we may be godly and quietly governed: and grant unto all that are put in authority under them that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue. Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops and other Ministers of thy

* *If there be no alms or oblations, then shall the words* [to accept our alms and oblations, and] *be left unsaid.*

Gospel, that they may both by their life and doctrine set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments. And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace; and especially to this congregation here present; that with meek heart and due reverence they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. And we most humbly beseech thee of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all those who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

For a Blessing on the Families of the Land.

ALMIGHTY GOD, our heavenly Father, who settest the solitary in families; We commend to thy continual care the homes in which thy people dwell. Put far from them, we beseech thee, every root of bitterness, the desire of vainglory, and the pride of life. Fill them with faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness. Knit together in constant affection those who, in holy wedlock, have been made one flesh; turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to the fathers; and so kindle charity among us all that we be evermore kindly affectioned with brotherly love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Country.

ALMIGHTY God, who in the former time didst lead our fathers forth into a wealthy place; Give thy grace, we humbly beseech thee, to us their children, that we may always approve ourselves a people mindful of thy favor, and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Defend our liberties, preserve our unity. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogancy, and from every evil way. Fashion into one happy people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those whom we intrust in thy Name with the authority of governance, to the end that there be peace at home, and that we keep a place among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness; and in the day of trouble, suffer

not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

For the Unity of God's People.

O GOD, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our only Saviour, the Prince of Peace; Give us grace seriously to lay to heart the great dangers we are in by our unhappy divisions. Take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatsoever else may hinder us from godly union and concord; that, as there is but one body, and one spirit, and one hope of our calling, one Lord, one Faith, one Baptism, one God and Father of us all, so we may all be of one heart, and of one soul, united in one holy bond of truth and peace, of faith and charity, and may with one mind and one mouth glorify thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For all Poor, Homeless, and Neglected Folk.

O GOD, Almighty and Merciful, who healest those that are broken in heart, and turnest the sadness of the sorrowful to joy; Let thy fatherly goodness be upon all that thou hast made. Especially we beseech thee to remember in pity such as are this day destitute, homeless, or forgotten of their fellowmen. Bless the congregation of thy poor. Uplift those who are cast down, mightily befriend innocent sufferers, and sanctify to them the endurance of their wrongs. Cheer with hope all discouraged and unhappy people, and by thy heavenly grace preserve from falling those whose penury tempteth them to sin. Though they be troubled on every side, suffer them not to be distressed; though they be perplexed, save them from despair. Grant this, O Lord, for the love of Him who for our sakes became poor, thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

For Those who Live in Sin.

HAVE mercy, heavenly Father, on all who are hardened through the deceitfulness of sin; vouchsafe them grace to come to themselves, the will and the power to return to thee, and the loving welcome of thy forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For Those who Err from the Faith.

O FATHER of lights, who art ever pitiful to the manifold wanderings of the children of men, and who hast given us thy holy Word to be a lantern to our feet amid the darkness of this world; Have compassion upon all who, by

denying the Gospel of thy dear Son, have been led far off from peace. Open their hearts to the truth, help them to cast down every proud thought, and make them to become as little children that they be wise; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

A General Intercession.

O GOD, at whose word man goeth forth unto his work and to his labor until the evening; Be merciful to all whose duties are difficult or burdensome, and comfort them concerning their toil. Shield from bodily accident and harm the workmen at their work. Protect the efforts of sober and industrious men, and suffer not the hire of the laborers to be kept back by fraud. Incline the hearts of employers and of those whom they employ to mutual forbearance, fairness, and good will. Give the spirit of governance and of a sound mind to all in places of authority. Bless the schools of good learning with quietness, and grant to every work of mercy an even course. Care for all aged persons, and all little children, the sick and the afflicted, and those who travel by land or by sea. Remember all who by reason of weakness are overtaxed, or because of poverty are forgotten. Let the sorrowful sighing of the prisoner come before thee, and according to the greatness of thy power preserve thou those that are appointed to die. Give ear unto our prayer, O merciful and gracious Father, for the love of thy dear Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

For the Spirit of Prayer.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast bidden us seek that we may find, and who pourest out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and of supplication; Deliver us, when we draw nigh to thee, from coldness of heart, and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship thee in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Morning.

O GOD, the King eternal, who dividest the day from the darkness, and turnest the shadow of death into the morning; Drive far off from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep thy law, and guide our feet into the way of peace, that having done thy will with cheerfulness while it was day, we may, when the night cometh, rejoice to give thee thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Evening.

O LORD our God, who alone makest us to dwell in safety; Refresh with quiet sleep, this night, those who are wearied with the labors of the day; and mercifully protect from harm all who put their trust in thee; that lying down in peace to take our rest, we may fear no evil, but confidently give ourselves into thy holy keeping; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Collects

To be said after the Collects of Morning or Evening Prayer, or the Communion, at the discretion of the Minister.

ASSIST us mercifully, O Lord, in these our supplications and prayers, and dispose the way of thy servants toward the attainment of everlasting salvation; that, among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, they may ever be defended by thy most gracious and ready help; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears, may, through thy grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honor and praise of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DIRECT us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALMIGHTY God, the fountain of all wisdom, who knowest our necessities before we ask, and our ignorance in asking; We beseech thee to have compassion on our infirmities; and those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask, vouchsafe to give us, for the worthiness of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COLLECT

that may be said when the Offerings are placed on the Table.

O GOD, since all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee; Mercifully accept our prayers and oblations; and because, through the weakness of our mortal

nature, we can do no good thing without thee, grant us the help of thy grace, that in keeping thy commandments we may please thee, both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Litany

OR GENERAL SUPPLICATION.

¶ *To be said on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.*

O GOD the Father of Heaven; have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

O God the Father of Heaven; have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world; have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world; have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

O God the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son; have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

O God the Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son; have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three Persons, and one God; have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, three Persons, and one God; have mercy upon us miserable sinners.

Remember not, Lord, our offences, nor the offences of our forefathers; neither take thou vengeance of our sins: Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and be not angry with us forever.

Spare us, good Lord.

From all evil and mischief; from sin, from the crafts and assaults of the devil, from thy wrath, and from everlasting damnation,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice, and all uncharitableness,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all inordinate and sinful affections; from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From lightning and tempest; from plague, pestilence, and famine; from battle and murder, and from sudden death,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From all sedition, privy conspiracy, and rebellion; from all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and Commandment,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and Circumcision; by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial; by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Ghost,

Good Lord, deliver us.

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,

Good Lord, deliver us.

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church universal in the right way;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless and preserve all Christian Rulers and Magistrates, giving them grace to execute justice, and to maintain truth;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to illuminate all Bishops, Elders, and Deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living they may set it forth, and show it accordingly;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us an heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give to all thy people increase of grace, to hear meekly thy Word, and to receive it with pure affection, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand;

and to comfort and help the weak-hearted; and to raise up them that fall; and finally to beat down Satan under our feet;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to succor, help, and comfort all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve all that travel by land or by water, all women in the perils of childbirth, all sick persons and young children; and to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to defend, and provide for, the fatherless children, and widows, and all that are desolate and oppressed;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all men;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the kindly fruits of the earth, so that in due time we may enjoy them;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit, to amend our lives according to thy holy Word;

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world;
Grant us thy peace.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world;
Have mercy upon us.

¶ *The Minister may, at his discretion, omit all that followeth, to the Prayer,* We humbly beseech thee, O Father, etc.

O Christ, hear us.
O Christ, hear us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

¶ *Then shall the Minister, and the People with him, say the* LORD'S PRAYER.

Let us pray.

O GOD, merciful Father, who despisest not the sighing of a contrite heart, nor the desire of such as be sorrowful; Mercifully assist our prayers which we make before thee, in all our troubles and adversities, whensoever they oppress us; and graciously hear us, that those evils, which the craft and subtility of the devil or man worketh against us, be brought to nought, and by the providence of thy goodness be dispersed; that we thy servants, being hurt by no persecutions, may evermore give thanks unto thee in thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

O Lord, arise, help us, and deliver us for thy Name's sake.

O GOD, we have heard with our ears, and our fathers have declared unto us, the noble works that thou didst in their days, and in the old time before them.

O Lord, arise, help us, and deliver us from thine honor.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Answer. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

From our enemies defend us, O Christ.

Graciously look upon our afflictions.

Pitifully behold the sorrows of our hearts.

Mercifully forgive the sins of thy people.

Favorably with mercy hear our prayers.

O Son of David, have mercy upon us.

Both now and ever vouchsafe to hear us, O Christ.

Graciously hear us, O Christ; graciously hear us, O Lord Christ.

Minister. O Lord, let thy mercy be showed upon us;

Answer. As we do put our trust in thee.

Let us pray.

WE humbly beseech thee, O Father, mercifully to look upon our infirmities; and for the glory of thy Name, turn from us all those evils that we most righteously have deserved; and grant, that in all our troubles we may put our whole trust and confidence in thy mercy, and evermore serve thee in holiness and pureness of living, to thy honor and glory; through our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ *Here shall follow Prayers according to the discretion of the Minister.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom.

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee, and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name, thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them: granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

2 Cor. 13. 14.

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Here endeth the Litany.

COLLECTS, EPISTLES, AND GOSPELS

FROM THE SUNDAY SERVICE BOOK, AND DESIGNED TO BE USED ON SUNDAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

The First Sunday in Advent*

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY GOD, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and dead, we may rise to the life immortal, through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. Amen.

The Epistle. Rom. 13. 8–14. The Gospel. St. Matt. 21. 1–13

The Second Sunday in Advent

The Collect.

BLESSED LORD, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; Grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience, and comfort of thy holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Epistle. Rom. 15. 4–13. The Gospel. St. Luke 21. 25–33.

The Third Sunday in Advent

The Collect.

O LORD JESUS CHRIST, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee; Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the

*Advent Sunday is always the Sunday nearest to November 30th whether before or after.

The Proper Psalms for this Day are, Morning, 8, 50; Evening 96, 97.

hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 Cor. 4. 1–5. The Gospel. St. Matt. 11. 2–10

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

The Collect.

O LORD, raise up, we pray thee, thy power, and come among us, and with great might succor us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us, through the satisfaction of thy Son our Lord; to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Epistle. Phil. 4. 4-7. *The Gospel.* St. John 1. 19-28.

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, OR THE BIRTHDAY OF CHRIST, COMMONLY CALLED

Christmas-day

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast given us thy only begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin; Grant that we, being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by the Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

The Epistle. Heb. 1. 1-12. *The Gospel.* St. John 1. 1-14.

The First Sunday after Christmas-day

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast given us thy only begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin; Grant that we, being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

The Epistle. Gal. 4. 1-7. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 1. 18-24.

The Second Sunday after Christmas

The Collect.

O LORD, we beseech thee mercifully to receive the prayers of thy people who call upon thee; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfill the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Rom. 12. 1-5. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 2. 41-52.

The Third Sunday after Christmas

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth; Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and grant us thy peace all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Rom. 12. 6-16. *The Gospel.* St. John 2. 1-11.

The Fourth Sunday after Christmas

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Rom. 12. 16-21. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 8-13.

The Fifth Sunday after Christmas

The Collect.

O GOD, who knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright; Grant to us such strength and protection as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Rom. 13. 1-7. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 8. 23-34.

The Sixth Sunday after Christmas

The Collect.

O LORD, we beseech thee to keep thy Church and household continually in thy true religion; that they, who do lean only upon the hope of thy heavenly grace, may ever-

more be defended by thy mighty power; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Col. 3. 12-17. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 13. 24-30.

The Seventh Sunday after Christmas

The Collect.

O GOD, whose blessed Son was manifested that he might destroy the works of the devil, and make us the sons of God, and heirs of eternal life; Grant us, we beseech thee, that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves, even as he is pure; that, when he shall appear again with power and great glory, we may be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Ghost, he liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 St. John 3. 1-8. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 24. 23-31.

The Eighth Sunday after Christmas

The Collect.

O LORD, we beseech thee favorably to hear the prayers of thy people; that we, who are justly punished for our offences, may be mercifully delivered by thy goodness, for the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 Cor. 9. 24-27. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 20. 1-16.

The Ninth Sunday after Christmas

The Collect.

O LORD GOD, who seest that we put not our trust in any thing that we do; Mercifully grant that by thy power we may be defended against all adversity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. 2 Cor. 11. 19-31. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 8. 4-15.

The Tenth Sunday after Christmas

The Collect.

O LORD, who hast taught us that all our doings without love are nothing worth; Send thy Holy Spirit, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the very bond of peace, and of all virtues; without which whoso-

ever liveth is counted dead before thee. Grant this for thine only Son Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 Cor. 13. 1-13. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 18. 31-43.

The Eleventh Sunday after Christmas

The Collect.

O LORD, who for our sake didst fast forty days and forty nights; Give us grace to use such abstinence, that, our flesh being subdued to the Spirit, we may ever obey thy godly motions in righteousness and true holiness, to thy honor and glory, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

The Epistle. 2 Cor. 6. 1-10. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 4. 1-11.

The Twelfth Sunday after Christmas

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves; Keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 Thess. 4. 1-8. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 15. 21-28.

The Thirteenth Sunday after Christmas

The Collect.

WE beseech thee, Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of thy humble servants, and stretch forth the right hand of thy Majesty, to be our defence against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Eph. 5. 1-14. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 11. 14-28.

The Fourteenth Sunday after Christmas

The Collect.

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that we, who for our evil deeds do worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of thy grace may mercifully be relieved; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Epistle. Gal. 4. 21-31. *The Gospel.* St. John 6. 1-14.

The Fifteenth Sunday after Christmas

The Collect.

WE beseech thee, Almighty God, mercifully to look upon thy people; that by thy great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore, both in body and soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 Cor. 9. 24-27. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 20. 1-16.

The Sunday next before Easter

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, who, of thy tender love toward mankind, has sent thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, to take upon him our flesh, and to suffer death upon the cross, that all mankind should follow the example of his great humility; Mercifully grant that we may both follow the example of his patience, and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Phil. 2. 5-11. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 27. 1-54.

Good Friday

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY GOD, we beseech thee graciously to behold this thy family, for which our Lord Jesus Christ was contented to be betrayed, and given up into the hands of wicked men, and to suffer death upon the cross, who now liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified; Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before thee for all estates of men in thy holy Church, that every member of the same, in his vocation and ministry, may truly and godly serve thee; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

O MERCIFUL GOD, who hast made all men, and hatest nothing that thou hast made, nor wouldest the death of a sinner, but rather that he should be converted and live; Have mercy upon all Jews, Turks, Infidels, and Heretics; and take from them all ignorance, hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word; and so fetch them home, blessed

Lord, to thy flock, that they may be saved among the remnant of the true Israelites, and be made one fold under one shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

The Epistle. Heb. 10. 1-25. *The Gospel.* St. John 19. 1-37.

Easter Day

¶ *At Morning Prayer before the Psalm these Anthems shall be sung or said.*

CHRIST our Passover is sacrificed for us: therefore let us keep the feast;

Not with the old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. 1 Cor. 5. 7.

CHRIST being raised from the dead, dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.

For in that he died, he died unto sin once; but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.

Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Rom. 6. 9.

CHRIST is risen from the dead, and become the first-fruits of them that slept.

For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. 1 Cor. 15. 20.

GLORY be to the Father, etc.
As it was in the beginning, etc.

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who, through thine only begotten Son Jesus Christ, hast overcome death, and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life; We humbly beseech thee, that, as by thy special grace preventing us, thou dost put into our minds good desires; so by thy continual help we may bring the same to good effect; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

The Epistle. Col. 3. 1-7. *The Gospel.* St. John 20. 1-10.

The First Sunday after Easter

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY FATHER, who hast given thine only Son to die for our sins, and to rise again for our justification; Grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness, that we may always serve thee in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 St. John 5. 4-12. *The Gospel.* St. John 20. 19-23.

The Second Sunday after Easter

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast given thine only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin, and also an ensample of godly life; Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit; and also daily endeavor ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 St. Pet. 2. 19-25. *The Gospel.* St. John 10. 11-16.

The Third Sunday after Easter

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who showest to them that are in error the light of thy truth, to the intent that they may return into the way of righteousness; Grant unto all them that are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's Religion, that they may avoid those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 St. Pet. 2. 11-17. *The Gospel.* St. John 16. 16-22.

The Fourth Sunday after Easter

The Collect.

O ALMIGHTY GOD, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men; Grant unto thy people, that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. St. James 1. 17-21. *The Gospel.* St. John 16. 5-15.

The Fifth Sunday after Easter

The Collect.

O LORD, from whom all good things do come; Grant to us thy humble servants, that by thy holy inspiration, we may think those things that are good, and, by thy merciful guiding, may perform the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Epistle. St. James 1. 22-27. *The Gospel.* St. John 16. 23-33.

The Ascension Day

The Collect.

GRANT, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

For the Epistle. Acts 1. 1-11. *The Gospel.* St. Mark 16. 14-20.

Sunday after Ascension Day

The Collect.

O GOD, the King of glory, who hast exalted thine only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven; We beseech thee, leave us not comfortless; but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 St. Pet. 4. 7-11. *The Gospel.* St. John 15. 26 *to chap.* 16. 4.

Whitsunday

The Collect.

O GOD, who as at this time didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people, by sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit; Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

For the Epistle. Acts 2. 1-11. *The Gospel.* St. John 14. 15-31.

Trinity Sunday

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, who hast given unto us thy servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of the Divine Majesty to worship the Unity; We beseech thee that thou wouldest keep us steadfast in this faith, and evermore defend us from all adversities, who livest and reignest, one God, world without end. Amen.

For the Epistle. Rev. 4. 11. *The Gospel* St. John 3. 1-15.

The First Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

O GOD, the strength of all those who put their trust in thee; Mercifully accept our prayers; and because, through the weakness of our mortal nature, we can do no good thing without thee, grant us the help of thy grace, that in keeping thy commandments we may please thee, both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 St. John 4. 7-21. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 16. 19-31.

The Second Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

O LORD, who never failest to help and govern those whom thou dost bring up in thy steadfast fear and love; Keep us, we beseech thee, under the protection of thy good providence, and make us to have a perpetual fear and love of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 St. John 3. 13-24. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 14. 16-24.

The Third Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

O LORD, we beseech thee mercifully to hear us; and grant that we, to whom thou hast given an hearty desire to pray, may, by thy mighty aid, be defended and comforted in all dangers and adversities; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 St. Pet. 5. 5-11. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 15. 1-10.

The Fourth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

O GOD, the protector of all that trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy; Increase and multiply upon us thy mercy; that, thou being our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal. Grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Rom. 8. 18-23. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 6. 36-42.

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

GRANT, O Lord, we beseech thee, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by thy governance, that thy Church may joyfully serve thee in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 St. Pet. 3. 8-14. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 5. 1-11.

The Sixth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

O GOD, who hast prepared for them that love thee such good things as pass man's understanding; Pour into our hearts such love toward thee, that we, loving thee above all things, may obtain thy promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Rom. 6. 3-11. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 5. 20-26.

The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

LORD OF ALL POWER AND MIGHT, who art the author and giver of all good things; Graft in our hearts the love of thy Name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of thy great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Rom. 6. 19-23. *The Gospel.* St. Mark 8. 1-9.

The Eighth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

O GOD, whose never-failing providence ordereth all things both in heaven and earth; We humbly beseech thee to put away from us all hurtful things, and to give us those

things which are profitable for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Rom. 8. 12-17. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 7. 15-21.

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

GRANT to us, Lord, we beseech thee, the spirit to think and do always such things as be rightful; that we, who cannot do anything that is good without thee, may by thee be enabled to live according to thy will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 Cor. 10. 1-13. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 16. 1-9.

The Tenth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

LET thy merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of thy humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 Cor. 12. 1-11. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 19. 41-47.

The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

O GOD, who declarest thy almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity; Mercifully grant unto us such a measure of thy grace, that we, running the way of thy commandments, may obtain thy gracious promises, and be made partakers of thy heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 Cor. 15. 1-11. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 18. 9-14.

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve; Pour down upon us the abundance of thy mercy, forgiving us those things whereof our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things which we are not worthy to ask, but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ thy Son, our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. 2 Cor. 3. 4-9. *The Gospel.* St. Mark 7. 31-37.

The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY AND MERCIFUL GOD, of whose only gift it cometh that thy faithful people do unto thee true and laudable service; Grant, we beseech thee, that we may so faithfully serve thee in this life, that we fail not finally to attain thy heavenly promises; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Gal. 3. 16-22. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 10. 23-37.

The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLASTING GOD, give unto us the increase of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain that which thou dost promise, make us to love that which thou dost command; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Gal. 5. 16-24. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 17. 11-19.

The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

KEEP, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy Church with thy perpetual mercy; and, because the frailty of man without thee cannot but fall, keep us ever by thy help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Gal. 6. 11-18. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 6. 24-34.

The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

O LORD, we beseech thee, let thy continual pity cleanse and defend thy Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without thy succor, preserve it evermore by thy help and goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Eph. 3. 13-21. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 7. 11-17.

The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

LORD, we pray thee, that thy grace may always prevent and follow us; and make us continually to be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Eph. 4. 1-6. *The Gospel.* St. Luke 14. 1-11.

The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

LORD, we beseech thee, grant thy people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil; and with pure hearts and minds to follow thee, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. 1 Cor. 1. 4-8. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 22. 34-46.

The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

O GOD, forasmuch as without thee we are not able to please thee; Mercifully grant, that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Eph. 4. 17-23. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 9. 1-8.

The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

O ALMIGHTY AND MOST MERCIFUL GOD, of thy bountiful goodness keep us, we beseech thee, from all things that may hurt us; that we, being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things which thou wouldest have done; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Eph. 5. 15-21. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 22. 1-14.

The Twenty-first Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

GRANT, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace; that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Eph. 6. 10-20. *The Gospel.* St. John 4. 46-54.

The Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

LORD, we beseech thee to keep thy household the Church in continual godliness; that through thy protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve

thee in good works, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Phil. 1. 3-11. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 18. 21-35.

The Twenty-third Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

O GOD, our refuge and strength, who art the author of all godliness; Be ready, we beseech thee, to hear the devout prayers of thy Church; and grant that those things which we ask faithfully we may obtain effectually; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Phil. 3. 17-21. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 22. 15-22.

The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

O LORD, we beseech thee, absolve thy people from their offences; that through thy bountiful goodness we may all be delivered from the bands of those sins, which by our frailty we have committed. Grant this, O heavenly Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our blessed Lord and Saviour. Amen.

The Epistle. Col. 1. 3-12. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 9. 18-26.

The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect.

STIR up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people, that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may of these be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Epistle. Jer. 23. 5-8. *The Gospel.* St. John 6. 5-14.

COLLECTS FOR

Epiphany and Ash Wednesday

Note, That Epiphany and Ash Wednesday are Days widely observed in the Christian Year. The Collects and citations for them are appended.

The Epiphany

OR MANIFESTATION OF CHRIST TO THE GENTILES,

Being the Sixth Day of January.

The Collect.

O GOD, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only begotten Son to the Gentiles; Mercifully grant that we, who know thee now by faith, may after this life have the fruition of thy glorious Godhead; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Epistle. Eph. 3. 1-12. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 2. 1-12.

Ash Wednesday

OBSERVED AS THE FIRST DAY OF LENT.

Being the Wednesday following the Tenth Sunday after Christmas.

The Collect.

ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent; Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the Epistle. Joel 2. 12-17. *The Gospel.* St. Matt. 6. 16-21.

Alternative Hymns and Canticles

FOR MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER.

Benedicite, omnia opera Domini.

O ALL ye Works of the Lord, bless ye the Lord; praise him, and magnify him forever.

O ye Angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.

O ye Heavens, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.

O ye Waters that be above the firmament, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.

O all ye Powers of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.

O ye Sun and Moon, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Stars of Heaven, bless ye the Lord: praise Him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Showers and Dew, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Winds of God, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Fire and Heat, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Winter and Summer, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Dews and Frosts, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Frost and Cold, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Ice and Snow, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Nights and Days, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Light and Darkness, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Lightnings and Clouds, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O let the Earth bless the Lord: yea, let it praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Mountains and Hills, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O all ye Green Things upon the earth, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Wells, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Seas and Floods, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Whales, and all that move in the waters, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O all ye Fowls of the Air, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O all ye Beasts and Cattle, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Children of Men, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O let Israel bless the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Priests of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.
O ye Servants of the Lord, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.

O ye Spirits and Souls of the Righteous, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.

O ye holy and humble Men of heart, bless ye the Lord: praise him, and magnify him forever.

Bonum est confiteri. Psalm 92.

IT is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy Name, O Most Highest;

To tell of thy loving-kindness early in the morning, and of thy truth in the night season;

Upon an instrument of ten strings, and upon the lute; upon a loud instrument, and upon the harp.

For thou, Lord, hast made me glad through thy works; and I will rejoice in giving praise for the operations of thy hands.

Benedic, anima mea. Psalm 103.

PRAISE the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, praise his holy Name.

Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

Who forgiveth all thy sin, and healeth all thine infirmities;

Who saveth thy life from destruction, and crowneth thee with mercy and loving-kindness.

O praise the Lord, ye angels of his, ye that excel in strength; ye that fulfill his commandment, and hearken unto the voice of his word.

O praise the Lord, all ye his hosts; ye servants of his that do his pleasure.

O speak good of the Lord, all ye works of his, in all places of his dominion; praise thou the Lord, O my soul.

Order for the Communion

1784.

1. The Lord's Prayer. Minister standing till after the Commandments.
2. Collect: "Almighty God, unto whom"—
3. Ten Commandments and Responses. The Congregation kneeling.
4. Collect for Supreme Rulers. All kneeling.
5. Collect of the Day.
6. The Epistle.

7. The Gospel. The Congregation standing.
8. The Sermon.
9. Offertory Sentence: Alms collected and brought to the Minister to place on the table.
10. Prayer for Christ's Church Militant.
11. Invitation. All standing.
12. General Confession.
13. Prayer for Absolution.
14. The Comfortable Words.
15. Sursum Corda: "Lift up your hearts"—
16. Prefaces, and "Therefore with Angels"—
17. Prayer of Humble Access: "We do not presume"—
18. Prayer of Consecration.
19. The Communion.
20. The Lord's Prayer.
21. Prayer of Oblation: "O Lord and heavenly Father"—
22. Gloria in Excelsis.
23. Benediction: "May the peace of God"—

*The Comfortable Words

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him:

COME unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (St. Matt. 11. 28.)

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (St. John 3. 16.)

Hear also what St. Paul saith:

This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. (1 Tim. 1. 15.)

Hear also what St. John saith:

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and he is the Propitiation for our sins. (1 John 2. 1, 2.)

The Sursum Corda.

LIFT up your hearts.
Answer. We lift them up unto the Lord.
Minister. Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
Answer. It is meet and right so to do.

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* Said in Mr. Wesley's Order for Communion, after the first Collect following the GENERAL CONFESSION.

Proper Prefaces

for Certain Days to be said after "It is very meet"—*and before* "Therefore with Angels"—*in the Order of Holy Communion.*

Upon Christmas Day.

BECAUSE thou didst give Jesus Christ, thine only Son, to be born as at this time for us; who, by the operation of the Holy Ghost, was made very man, and that without spot of sin, to make us clean from all sin. Therefore with Angels, etc.

Upon Easter Day.

BUT chiefly we are bound to praise thee for the glorious Resurrection of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord: for he is the very Paschal Lamb, which was offered for us, and hath taken away the sin of the world; who by his death hath destroyed death, and by his rising to life again hath restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Angels, etc.

Upon Ascension Day.

THROUGH thy most dearly beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; who, after his most glorious Resurrection, manifestly appeared to all his Apostles, and in their sight ascended up into heaven, to prepare a place for us; that where he is, thither we might also ascend, and reign with him in glory. Therefore with Angels, etc.

Upon Whitsunday.

THROUGH Jesus Christ our Lord; according to whose most true promise, the Holy Ghost came down as at this time, from heaven, with a sudden great sound, as it had been a mighty wind, in the likeness of fiery tongues, lighting upon the Apostles, to teach them, and to lead them into all truth; giving them both the gift of divers languages, and also boldness with fervent zeal, constantly to preach the Gospel unto all nations; whereby we have been brought out of darkness and error, into the clear light and true knowledge of thee, and of thy Son Jesus Christ. Therefore with Angels, etc.

Upon the Feast of Trinity only, may be said,

WHO art one God, one Lord; not one only Person, but three Persons in one Substance. For that which we believe of the glory of the Father, the same we believe of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, without any inequality. Therefore with Angels, etc.

THE COMMANDMENTS AND RESPONSES[1]

¶ *This Order may be used as a separate Service: or it may be said at the opening of Morning Service; in which case it may be preceded by a suitable Hymn. It is suggested as an appropriate service preceding the holy Communion. See Responses, with music, Hymnal Number 738.*

¶ *Let all stand while the Minister reads the* SENTENCES, *the People answering him.*

Minister. Blessed are the undefiled in the way: who walk in the law of the Lord.

Answer. Order my steps in Thy Word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

Minister. Blessed are they that keep His testimonies: and that seek Him with the whole heart.

Answer. With my whole heart have I sought Thee: O let me not wander from Thy commandments.

¶ *Then shall the Minister say,*

Let us pray.

¶ *Let the People reverently bow down while he leads them in*

THE INVOCATION.

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee, and worthily magnify Thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

¶ *Then the Minister shall read* THE TEN COMMANDMENTS, *and the People, still bowing down, shall, after every Commandment, ask God's mercy for their transgressions in time past, and grace to keep the Law in time to come.*

GOD spake all these words, saying,

I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any

[1] From the Book of Common Worship—Presbyterian Church.

likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me, and keep My commandments.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His Name in vain.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Remember the Sabbath-day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day; wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath-day, and hallowed it.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not kill.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not steal.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these Thy laws in our hearts, we beseech Thee.

¶ *Then the Minister shall say,*

Hear also what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

¶ *After a short pause let the Minister continue in Prayer, using, if he will, the following, or other fitting words.*

WE confess to Thee, Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, that we have grievously sinned in thought, word, and deed. Make us truly contrite. Fill us with holy fear, and give us grace to amend our lives according to Thy Word, for the glory of Thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of His great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn to Him; Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

NOW unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us; unto Him be glory and dominion in the Church by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

THE RITUAL

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

[Let every adult person, and the parents of every child to be baptized, have the choice of either sprinkling, pouring, or immersion.]

[We will on no account whatever make a charge for administering Baptism.]

Order for the Administration of Baptism to Infants

The Minister, coming to the Font, which is to be filled with pure Water, shall use the following:

DEARLY BELOVED, forasmuch as God in his great mercy hath entered into covenant relation with man, wherein he hath included children as partakers of its gracious benefits; and our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Suffer the little children to come unto me; forbid them not: for to such belongeth the kingdom of God; I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that having, of his bounteous mercy, redeemed *this child* by the blood of his Son, he will

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NOTE.—We call upon all our ministers to make faithful use of the forms and orders here provided, and without other deviation than that here indicated as permitted.

We urge all pastors to encourage and train their congregations to participate audibly in those portions of the service provided for this purpose, particularly in the celebration of the Lord's Supper. The portions to be used by the congregation are specially indicated by black face type.

grant that *he,* being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy spirit, be received into Christ's holy Church, and become a *lively Member* of the same.

Then shall the Minister say:

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who by thy well-beloved Son Jesus Christ gavest commandment to go into all the world and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; we beseech thee, that of thine infinite mercy thou wilt look upon *this child:* that *he,* being saved by thy grace, and received into Christ's holy Church, may be steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in love, and may so overcome all evil that finally *he* may reign with thee, world without end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister address the Parents or other Sponsors as followeth:

Dearly Beloved, forasmuch as *this child is* now presented by you for Christian Baptism, and is thus consecrated to God and to his Church, it is your part and duty to see that *he* be taught, as soon as *he* shall be able to learn, the nature and end of this Holy Sacrament; that *he* shall read the Holy Scriptures and learn the Lord's Prayer, the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed and the Catechism; and that *he* be instructed in the principles of our Holy Faith and the nature of the Christian life. And ye shall call upon *him* to give reverent attendance upon the appointed means of grace, such as the ministry of the Word, and the public and private worship of God; and that in every way, by precept and example, ye shall seek to lead *him* into the love of God and the service of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Do you therefore solemnly engage to fulfill these duties, so far as in you lies, the Lord being your helper?

Answer. **We do.**

Then shall the People stand up, and the Minister shall say:

Hear the words of the Gospel, written by St. Mark. [Chap. 10. 13-16.]

And they were bringing unto him little children, that he should touch them: and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was moved with indignation, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me; forbid them not: for to such belongeth the kingdom of God. Verily

I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall in no wise enter therein. And he took them in his arms, and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

Then the Minister may take the Child in his arms, and say to the Parents or other Sponsors:

What name shall be given to this child?

And then, naming it after them, he shall baptize it, saying:

N., I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister offer the following Prayer, the People kneeling:

O God of infinite mercy, be pleased to grant unto *this child* an understanding mind and a sanctified heart. May thy providence lead *him* through the dangers, temptations, and ignorance of *his* youth, that *he* may never run into folly, nor into the evils of an unbridled appetite. We pray thee so to order the course of *his* life that, by good education, by holy examples, and by thy restraining and renewing grace, *he* may be led to serve thee faithfully all *his* days, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty and Most Merciful Father, grant unto these, thy servants, the parents [sponsors] of *this child*, thy Holy Spirit, that *they* may command *their* household to keep the way of the Lord; that *their* whole family may be united to our Lord Jesus Christ in the bonds of faith, obedience, and charity; and that they all, being in this life thy holy children, may be admitted into the Church of the first born in heaven, through the merits of thy Son, our Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Then may the Minister offer extemporary Prayer.

Then shall be said by the Minister and People all kneeling:

The Lord's Prayer.

Order for the Administration of Baptism to such as are of Riper Years

The Minister, addressing the Congregation, shall say:

Dearly Beloved, forasmuch as all men have sinned and

come short of the glory of God, and our Saviour Christ saith except a man be born anew he cannot see the kingdom of God, and also gave commandment saying: Go ye, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous goodness he will grant to *these persons* that which by nature *they* cannot have; that *they*, being baptized with water, may also be baptized with the Holy Spirit, and, being received into Christ's holy Church, may continue lively *Members* of the same.

Then shall the Minister say:

Let us pray.

Almighty and Everliving God, the aid of all that need, the helper of all that flee to thee for succor, the life of them that believe, and the resurrection of the dead: we call upon thee for *these persons*, that *they*, coming to thy Holy Baptism, may also be filled with the Holy Spirit. Receive *them*, O Lord, as thou hast promised by thy well-beloved Son, saying, Ask, and ye shall receive; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. So give now unto us that ask; let us that seek, find; open the gate unto us that knock; that *these persons* may enjoy the everlasting benediction of thy heavenly washing, and may come to the eternal kingdom which thou hast promised, by Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then may the Minister read the following Lesson:

Acts 2. 38-42 or John 3. 1-8.

Then shall the Minister speak to the Persons to be baptized on this wise:

Well Beloved, who have come hither desiring to receive Holy Baptism, you have heard how the Congregation hath prayed that our Lord Jesus Christ would vouchsafe to receive you, to bless you, and to give you the kingdom of heaven, and everlasting life. And our Lord Jesus Christ hath promised in his holy word to grant all those things that we have prayed for: which promise he for his part will most surely keep and perform.

Wherefore, after this promise made by Christ, you must also faithfully, for your part, promise in the presence of this whole Congregation, that you will renounce the devil and all his works, and constantly believe God's Holy Word, and obediently keep his commandments.

The Baptismal Covenant

Then shall the Minister demand of each of the Persons to be baptized:

Dost thou renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the carnal desires of the flesh, so that thou wilt not follow nor be led by them?

Answer. I renounce them all.

Dost thou believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son our Lord; and that he was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; that he suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; that he rose the third day; that he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; and from thence shall come again at the end of the world, to judge the quick and the dead?

And dost thou believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic[1] Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and everlasting life after death?

Answer. All this I steadfastly believe.

Wilt thou be baptized in this faith?

Answer. Such is my desire.

Wilt thou then obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of thy life?

Answer. I will endeavor so to do, God being my helper.

Then shall the Minister say:

O Merciful God, grant that all sinful affections may die in *these persons,* and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in *them. Amen.*

Grant that *they,* being here dedicated to thee in holy baptism, may also be endued with heavenly virtues, and everlastingly rewarded through thy mercy, O blessed Lord God, who dost live, and govern all things, world without end. *Amen.*

Almighty, Everliving God, regard, we beseech thee, our

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[1] The one universal Church of Christ.

supplications; and grant that the *persons* now to be baptized may receive the fullness of thy grace, and ever remain in the number of thy faithful and beloved children, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then the Minister, asking the name of each Person, shall baptize him, saying:

N., . . . I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Then shall be said by the Minister and people, all kneeling:

The Lord's Prayer.

Then may the Minister conclude with extemporary Prayer.

THE RITUAL—RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

Form for Receiving Persons into the Church as Preparatory Members

[The use of this form is discretionary with the minister.]

Those who are to be received into the Church as Preparatory Members may be called forward by name, and the Minister, addressing the Congregation, shall say:

Dearly Beloved Brethren, that none may be admitted hastily into the Church, we receive persons who seek fellowship with us on profession of faith into a preparatory membership; in which proof may be made, both to themselves and to the Church, of the sincerity and depth of their convictions and of the strength of their purpose to lead a new life.

The persons here present desire to be so admitted. You will hear their answers to the questions put to them, and if you make no objection they will be received.

It is needful, however, that you be reminded of your own responsibility, as having previously entered this holy fellowship and now representing the Church into which they seek admission. Inasmuch as they should find in you holy examples of life and loving help in the true serving of their Lord and ours, I beseech you so to order your own lives that these new disciples may take no detriment from you, but that it may ever be to them a cause for thanksgiving to God that they were led into this fellowship.

Then, addressing the Persons seeking Admission as Preparatory Members, the Minister shall say:

Dearly Beloved, you have, by the grace of God, made your decision to follow Christ and to serve him. Your confidence in so doing is not to be based on any notion of fitness or worthiness in yourselves, but on the gracious promise of God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us.

That the Church may know your purpose, you will answer the following questions:

Have you an earnest desire to be saved from your sins?

Answer. I have.

Will you guard against all things contrary to the teaching of God's Word, and endeavor to lead a holy life, following the commandments of God?

Answer. I will endeavor so to do.

Will you give reverent attendance upon the appointed means of grace in the ministry of the Word, and in the private and public worship of God?

Answer. With the help of God, I will.

The Minister shall then welcome the Candidates as Preparatory Members, and may assign them to classes.

Then may the Minister offer extemporary Prayer.

Form for Receiving Persons into the Church from Preparatory Membership

On the day appointed, all that are to be received into the Church shall be called forward, and the Minister, addressing the Congregation, shall say:

Dearly Beloved, the Scriptures teach us that the Church is the household of God, the body of which Christ is the head; and that it is the design of the gospel to bring together in one all who are in Christ. The end of this fellowship is the salvation of men and the establishment of the kingdom of God upon earth. As helps thereto the Church is charged with the maintenance of sound doctrine and of the ordinances of Christian worship, and with the exercise of that power of godly admonition and discipline which Christ has committed to her for the promotion of holiness. The duties of those united in this fellowship are to continue steadfast in the faith and practice of the gospel; to promote the peace and unity of the Church; to labor for the spread of love and righteousness; and by word and deed to bring others into the fold of Jesus Christ.

Into this holy fellowship the *persons* before you, who have already received the sacrament of Baptism and have been under instruction in the doctrines of Holy Scripture as taught by the Methodist Episcopal Church, *come* seeking admission. We now propose, in the fear of God, to question *them* as to

their faith and purposes, that you may know that *they are* proper *persons* to be admitted into the Church.

Then, addressing the Persons seeking Admission, the Minister shall say:

Dearly Beloved, you are come hither seeking the great privilege of union with the Church our Saviour has purchased with his own blood. We rejoice in the grace of God vouchsafed unto you in that he has called you to be his *followers*, and that thus far you have run well. You have heard how solemn are the duties of membership in Christ's Church; and before you are fully admitted thereto, it is proper that you do here publicly renew your vows, confess your faith, and declare your purpose, by answering the following questions:

Do you here, in the presence of God and of this Congregation, renew the solemn promise contained in the Baptismal Covenant, ratifying and confirming the same, and acknowledging *yourselves* bound faithfully to observe and keep that Covenant?

Answer. I do.

Do you receive Jesus Christ as your Saviour, and do you confess him as your Lord and Master?

Answer. I do.

Do you believe in the Doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as set forth in the Articles of Religion of the Methodist Episcopal Church?

Answer. I do.

Will you contribute of your earthly substance, according to your ability, to the support of the Gospel and the various benevolent enterprises of the Church?

Answer. I will.

Will you cheerfully be governed by the Rules of the Methodist Episcopal Church, hold sacred the Ordinances of God, and endeavor, as much as in you lies, to promote the welfare of your brethren and the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom?

Answer. I will.

Then, the Candidates kneeling, the Minister shall say:

Defend, O Lord, *these* thy *servants* with thy heavenly grace; that *they* may continue thine forever; and daily in-

crease in thy Holy Spirit, more and more, until *they* come unto thy everlasting kingdom. *Amen.*

Then the Minister, extending the right hand of fellowship, shall say to the Candidates:

We welcome you to the communion of the Church of God; and, in testimony of our Christian affection and the cordiality with which we receive you, I hereby extend to you the right hand of fellowship: and may God grant that you may be a faithful and useful Member of the Church militant till you are called to the fellowship of the Church triumphant, which is "without fault before the throne of God."

Form for Receiving Children as Members of the Church

We regard all children who have been baptized as standing in covenant relation to God, and as preparatory members under the special care and supervision of the Church. Whenever baptized children shall understand the obligations of religion, and shall give evidence of piety, they may be admitted into full membership in the Church. See Discipline, paragraphs 49 to 54.

At the appointed time, the Minister shall read the names of the children to be received; and, after they have come forward, he shall say to the Congregation:

Dearly Beloved, these persons here present before you are baptized children of the Church, who, having arrived at the years of discretion, desire now to confirm the vows of their baptism and to enter upon the active duties and the full privileges of membership in the Church of Christ. They have been duly instructed as to the truths of the Christian faith, and have been examined as to their fitness for such membership. Before they assume the required vows, let us invoke on their behalf the gracious blessing of God our Father, and the continued presence of the Holy Spirit who hath inclined their hearts to this end.

Then shall the Minister say:

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, who hast appointed unto children a place in thy kingdom, and through thy well beloved Son didst give unto them thy blessing, we beseech thee that thou wilt visit with thy favor the homes of this congregation, and fill the hearts of all parents with the fear of God and the spirit of wisdom and love. We pray that thy church may be faithful in the nurture of those committed to her care. Let thy blessing rest upon these, thy children, whom

thou hast graciously inclined to thy service and to the fellowship of thy people. We beseech thee, that thou wilt so further them by thy grace and direct them by thy Spirit, that they may be faithful servants in thy kingdom on earth, and finally reign with thee in thy kingdom above, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister say:

Hear the words of the Gospel as written by St. Luke (Chap 2. 40-52).

Then shall the Minister address the Persons seeking Admission as follows:

Dearly Beloved, we rejoice in the grace of God in that he has brought you to this place, and by his Spirit has confirmed you in your purpose to serve him and to live in the fellowship of the Church of Christ. It is needful now that you should declare your faith and purpose in the presence of this congregation by answering the following questions:

Do you receive Jesus Christ as your Saviour, and do you confess him as your Lord and Master?

Answer. I do.

Do you receive and profess the Christian Faith as contained in the New Testament of our Lord Jesus Christ?

Answer. I do.

Will you be loyal to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and uphold it by your prayer, your presence, your gifts, and your service?

Answer. I will.

Then, the Candidates kneeling, the Minister shall say:

Defend, O Lord, *these* thy *Children* with thy heavenly grace, that *they* may continue thine forever, and daily increase in thy Holy Spirit more and more, until *they* come unto thy everlasting kingdom. *Amen.*

Then the Minister, extending the right hand of fellowship, shall say to the Candidates:

We welcome you to the communion of the Church of God; and, in testimony of our Christian affection and the cordiality with which we receive you, I hereby extend to you the right hand of fellowship: and may God grant that you may be a faithful and useful Member of the Church militant till you are called to the fellowship of the Church triumphant, which is "without fault before the throne of God."

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER, OR THE HOLY COMMUNION

[Let the pure, unfermented juice of the grape be used in administering the Lord's Supper.]

[Let persons who have scruples concerning the receiving of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper kneeling be permitted to receive it either standing or sitting.][1]

Order for the Administration of the Lord's Supper

[If the Minister so desire, he may here use the Ten Commandments, with responses by the people, as contained in the Hymnal, Number 738.]

The Minister shall say one or more of these Sentences, during the reading of which the Persons appointed for that purpose shall receive the Offering for the Poor:

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon the earth, where moth and rust consume, and where thieves break through and steal: but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven; where neither moth nor rust doth consume, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where thy treasure is, there will thy heart be also. [Matt. 6. 19-21.]

All things therefore whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, even so do ye also unto them: for this is the law and the prophets. [Matt. 7. 12.]

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven. [Matt. 7. 21.]

Zacchæus stood, and said unto the Lord, Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have wrongfully exacted aught of any man, I restore fourfold. [Luke 19. 8.]

He that soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he that soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. *Let* each man *do* according as he hath purposed in his heart: not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. [2 Cor. 9. 6, 7.]

[1] See also Suggested Form of Service page 244.

So then, as we have opportunity, let us work that which is good toward all men, and especially toward them that are of the household of the faith. [Gal. 6. 10.]

Godliness with contentment is great gain: for we brought nothing into the world, for neither can we carry anything out. [1 Tim. 6. 6, 7.]

Charge them that are rich in this present world, that they be not highminded, nor have their hope set on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they do good, that they be rich in good works, that they be ready to distribute, willing to communicate; laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on the life which is *life* indeed. [1 Tim. 6. 17-19.]

For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and the love which ye showed toward his name, in that ye ministered unto the saints, and still do minister. [Heb. 6. 10.]

To do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. [Heb. 13. 16.]

Whoso hath the world's goods, and beholdeth his brother in need, and shutteth up his compassion from him, how doth the love of God abide in him? [1 John 3. 17.]

He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto Jehovah, And his good deed will he pay him again. [Prov. 19. 17.]

Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. [Psa. 41. 1.]

Thou shalt surely open thy hand unto thy brother, to thy needy, and to thy poor, in thy land. [Deut. 15. 11.]

After which the Minister shall give the following Invitation, the People standing:

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: and he is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for the whole world.

Wherefore ye that do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways, draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and, devoutly kneeling, make your humble confession to Almighty God.

Then shall this general Confession be made by the Minister and all those who are minded to receive the Holy Communion, he and all the People devoutly kneeling and saying:

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men, we acknowledge and bewail

our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy Divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall the Minister say:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy great mercy hast promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto thee, have mercy upon us; pardon and deliver us from all our sins; confirm and strengthen us in all goodness; and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

This Collect shall then be said by the Minister and those intending to receive the Holy Communion:

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall the Minister say:

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may live and grow thereby; and that, being washed through his most precious blood, we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

Then the Minister shall offer the Prayer of Consecration, as followeth:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual

memory of his precious death until his coming again: hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee, and grant that we, receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood, who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread (1); and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

(1) *Here the Minister may take the plate of Bread in his hand.*

Likewise after supper he took (2) the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me. *Amen.*

(2) *Here he may take the cup in his hand.*

Then shall the Minister receive the Communion in both kinds, and proceed to deliver the same to the other Ministers, if any be present; after which he shall say:

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

Then shall be said or sung by all the people:

[The Hymnal, 741.]

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee, and saying, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high! Amen.

The Minister shall then proceed to administer the Communion to the People in order, kneeling, into their uncovered hands; and when he delivereth the Bread, he shall say:

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for *thee,* preserve *thy soul* and *body* unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for *thee;* and feed on him in *thy heart* by faith, with thanksgiving.

And the Minister that delivereth the Cup shall say:

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for *thee,* preserve *thy soul* and *body* unto everlasting life. Drink

this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for *thee,* and be thankful.

[If the Consecrated bread or wine shall be all spent before all have communed, the Elder may Consecrate more by repeating the Prayer of Consecration.]

[When all have communed, the Minister shall return to the Lord's table and place upon it what remaineth of the Consecrated elements, covering the same with a fair linen cloth.]

Then shall the Elder say the Lord's Prayer; the People kneeling, and repeating after him every petition.

After which the Minister and People shall say:

O Lord our heavenly Father, we thy humble servants desire thy Fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and thy whole Church may obtain forgiveness of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that all we who are partakers of this Holy Communion may be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction. And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. Amen.

Then shall be said or sung by all the People standing:

[The Hymnal, 742.]

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men! We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty!

O Lord, the only begotten Son Jesus Christ: O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Then the Minister shall let the People depart with this Blessing:

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

[The Minister is expected to use the full form, but, if straitened for time in the usual administration of the Holy Communion, he may omit any part of the service, except the Invitation, the Confession, and the Prayer of Consecration; and in its administration to the sick he may omit any part of the service except the Confession, the Prayer of Consecration, and the usual sentences in delivering the Bread and Wine, closing with the Lord's Prayer, extemporary supplication, and the Benediction.]

MATRIMONY

Form for the Solemnization of Matrimony

[The parts in brackets throughout may be used or not at discretion.]

At the time appointed, the persons to be married—having been qualified according to law—standing together, the Man on the right hand and the Woman on the left, the Minister shall say:

Dearly Beloved, we are gathered together here in the sight of God, and in the presence of these witnesses, to join together this man and this woman in holy Matrimony; which is an honorable estate, instituted of God in the time of man's innocency, signifying unto us the mystical union that exists between Christ and his Church; which holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with his presence, and first miracle that he wrought, in Cana of Galilee; and therefore is not by any to be entered into unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God.

Into which holy estate these two persons present come now to be joined. Therefore if any can show just cause why they may not lawfully be joined together, let him now speak, or else hereafter forever hold his peace.

[*And also speaking unto the Persons that are to be married, the Minister shall say:*

I require and charge you both, that if either of you know any impediment why ye may not be lawfully joined together in matrimony, ye do now confess it: for be ye well assured, that so many as are married otherwise than God's Word doth allow, are not joined together by God, neither is their matrimony lawful.]

If no impediment be alleged, then shall the Minister say unto the Man, using his given name:

M., wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of

matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor and keep her, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto her, so long as ye both shall live?

The Man shall answer:

I will.

Then shall the Minister say unto the Woman, using her given name:

N., wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love him, comfort him, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health; and forsaking all other, keep thee only unto him, so long as ye both shall live?

The Woman shall answer:

I will.

[*Then shall the Minister say:*

Who giveth this Woman to be married to this Man?]

[*Answer:* I do.]

[*Then the Minister shall cause the Man with his right hand to take the Woman by her right hand, and, using the given names, to say after him as followeth:*

I, *M.*, take thee, *N.*, to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my faith.

Then shall they loose their hands, and the Woman, with her right hand taking the Man by his right hand, shall likewise say after the Minister:

I, *N.*, take thee, *M.*, to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my faith.]

[*If the parties desire it, the Man shall here hand a Ring to the Minister, who shall return it to him, and direct him to place it on the third finger of the Woman's left hand. And the Man shall say to the Woman, repeating after the Minister:*

With this ring I thee wed, and with my worldly goods I

thee endow, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*]

Then shall the Minister pray thus:

O Eternal God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life: send thy blessing upon these thy servants, this man and this woman, whom we bless in thy name; that they may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant between them made, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to thy laws, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister join their right hands together, and say, using the given names:

Forasmuch as *M.* and *N.* have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have pledged their faith either to other, and have declared the same by joining of hands [and by giving and receiving a ring]; I pronounce that they are husband and wife together, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Those whom God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. *Amen.*

And the Minister shall add this Blessing:

God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you; and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace, that ye may so live together in this life that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister and the People together repeat the LORD'S PRAYER.

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

BURIAL OF THE DEAD

[We will on no account whatever make a charge for burying the dead.]

Form for Burial of the Dead

The Minister, going before the Body, shall say:

I AM the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth on me, though he die, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth on me shall never die. [John 11. 25, 26.]

For we know that if the earthly house of our tabernacle be dissolved, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal, in the heavens. [2 Cor. 5. 1.]

And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God the Almighty, and the Lamb, are the temple thereof. And the city hath no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine upon it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the lamp thereof is the Lamb. [Rev. 21. 22, 23.]

In the House or Church may be read one of the following Psalms:

Psalm 23.

Psalm 90. 1, 2, 4-6, 12, 14, 16, 17.

Then may follow the reading of the Epistle, as follows:

1 Corinthians 15. 41-49, 53-58.

Or this:
John 14. 1-3, 15-20, 25-27.

Or this:
Revelation 7. 9-17.

At the Grave, when the Body is laid in the Earth, the Minister shall say:

Lord, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am.

In the midst of life we are in death: of whom may we seek for succor, but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased?

Yet, O Lord God most holy, O Lord most mighty, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death; but grant us everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Then, while the Earth may be cast upon the Body by some standing by, the Minister shall say:

Forasmuch as the spirit of the departed hath returned to the God who gave it, we therefore commit *his* body to the ground, earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; looking for the general resurrection in the last day, and the life of the world to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ; at whose second coming in glorious majesty to judge the world, the earth and the sea shall give up their dead; and the corruptible bodies of those who sleep in him shall be changed and made like unto his own glorious body; according to the mighty working whereby he is able to subdue all things unto himself.

Then shall be said:

I heard a voice from heaven saying, Write, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; for their works follow with them.

Then shall the Minister say:

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Response Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Then the Minister may offer this Prayer:

Almighty God, with whom do live the spirits of those who depart hence in the Lord, and with whom the souls of the faithful after death are in joy and felicity: we give thee hearty thanks for the good examples of all those thy servants, who, having finished their course in faith, do now rest from their labors. And we beseech thee, that we, with all those who are departed in the true faith of thy holy name, may have our perfect consummation and bliss, both in body and soul, in thy eternal and everlasting glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Collect

O Merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life; in whom whosoever believeth shall live, though he die, and whosoever liveth and believeth

in him shall not die eternally: we meekly beseech thee, O Father, to raise us from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness; that when we shall depart this life we may rest in him; and at the general resurrection on the last day may be found acceptable in thy sight, and receive that blessing which thy well-beloved Son shall then pronounce to all that love and fear thee, saying, Come, ye blessed children of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world. Grant this, we beseech thee, O Merciful Father, through Jesus Christ our Mediator and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Then shall the Minister and the People together repeat the Lord's Prayer:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. Amen.

Form for the Burial of a Child

The service may begin with a suitable Hymn, after which the Minister may offer the following Prayer, saying:

Let us pray.

Almighty God our heavenly Father, the refuge of all thy saints and the sure defense of all who put their trust in thee, lift upon us the light of thy countenance and give us peace. We know not thy counsels, O Lord, for thy thoughts are not our thoughts, nor thy ways our ways. Thou art infinitely holy, wise, and good, and thou doest all things well. Thou dost teach us in thy Holy Word that all things work together for good to them that love God, and that our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. Comfort, we beseech thee, the hearts that sorrow in the death of this child; grant unto them the strengthening grace of thy Holy Spirit, that they and all we who trust thy fatherly goodness and care may rejoice in the promise of eternal life; and that we may be united again with our loved ones in thy heavenly and eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Then may be read any of the following Scripture passages:

Mark 10. 13-16
Psalm 23
Psalm 103. 13-18
Revelation 22. 1-5

At the Grave, where the Body is laid in the Earth, the Minister shall say:

Almighty and Most Merciful God our heavenly Father, from whom our spirits come and to whom they shall return, grant unto all sorrowing hearts the consolation of thy grace. *Amen.*

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, who didst give thy life for our redemption, and who didst promise the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to thy people, strengthen, we beseech thee, the faith of these bereaved ones, that they may contemplate with peace the blessedness of that eternal home which thou hast prepared for all whom thou hast redeemed. Grant that they, and all others whose joy is turned into mourning, may not murmur nor faint under their affliction; but, cleaving more closely unto thee, O blessed Lord Christ, who art the resurrection and the life, may be led by thy Holy Spirit through all the trials of this uncertain life, till the day break and the shadows flee away. *Amen.*

Here the Minister and the People may unite in the Lord's Prayer.

Then shall the Minister dismiss the People with the Benediction.

Form for the Dedication of a Church

The Congregation being assembled in the Church, the Minister shall say:

Dearly Beloved, the Scriptures teach us that God is well pleased with those who build temples to his name. We have heard how he filled the temple of Solomon with his glory and how in the second temple he manifested himself still more gloriously. And the gospel approves and commends the centurion who built a synagogue for the people. Let us not doubt that he will also favorably approve our purpose of dedicating this place in solemn manner, for the performance of the several offices of religious worship; and let us now devoutly join in praise to his name, that this godly undertaking hath been so far completed, and in prayer for his further blessing upon all who have been engaged therein, and upon all who shall hereafter worship his name in this place.

Let one of the Hymns 656-666, from The Hymnal, be sung. Afterward let extemporary Prayer be offered, concluding with the Lord's Prayer, the Congregation all kneeling.

Then shall the Minister, or some one appointed by him, read:

The First Lesson. 2 Chronicles 6. 1, 2, 18-21, 40-42; 7. 1-4.
The Second Lesson. Hebrews 10. 19-25.

Then shall one of the Hymns 656-666, from The Hymnal, be sung; after which the Minister shall deliver a Sermon suitable to the occasion. Contributions shall then be received from the People.

Then shall the Minister read the following Psalm, or the Minister and the Congregation may read it alternately:

Psalm 122

I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.

Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is builded as a city that is compact together:

Whither the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, unto the testimony of Israel, to give thanks unto the name of the Lord.

For there are set thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.

Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces.

For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee.

Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek thy good.

Then let the Trustees stand up before the Altar, and one of them, or some one in their behalf, say unto the Minister:

We present unto you this building, to be dedicated as a church for the worship and service of Almighty God.

Then shall the Minister request the Congregation to stand, while he repeats the following Declaration:

Dearly Beloved, it is meet and right, as we learn from the Holy Scriptures, that houses erected for the public worship of God should be specially set apart and dedicated to religious uses. For such a dedication we are now assembled. With gratitude, therefore, to Almighty God, who has signally blessed his servants in their holy enterprise of erecting this church, we dedicate it to his service, for the reading of the Holy Scriptures, the preaching of the Word of God, the

administration of the Holy Sacraments, and for all other exercises of religious worship and service, according to the Discipline and Usages of the Methodist Episcopal Church. And, as the dedication of the temple is vain without the solemn consecration of the worshipers also, let us now dedicate ourselves anew to the service of God. To him let our souls be dedicated, that they may be renewed after the image of Christ. To him let our bodies be dedicated, that they may be fit temples for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. To him may our labors and business be dedicated, that their fruit may tend to the glory of his great name, and to the advancement of his kingdom.

Then shall the Minister say these words of Dedication, all the People standing and responding in the words printed in black face type:

O God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our Father:
To thee we dedicate this church.

Son of God, the Only Begotten of the Father, Head over all things to the Church, which is thy Body: Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, and King of thy people:
To thee we dedicate this church.

God the Holy Spirit, proceeding from the Father and the Son, our Teacher, Sanctifier, and Comforter:
To thee we dedicate this church.

Eternal, Holy, and Glorious Trinity, three Persons, one God.
To thee we dedicate this church.

Then, the Congregation kneeling, the Minister shall offer the following Prayer:

O Most Glorious Lord, we acknowledge that we are not worthy to offer unto thee anything belonging unto us; yet we beseech thee, in thy great goodness, graciously to accept the dedication of this place to thy service, and to prosper this our undertaking. Receive the prayers and intercessions of all those thy servants who shall call upon thee in this house; and give them grace to prepare their hearts to serve thee with reverence and godly fear. Affect them with a due apprehension of thy divine majesty, and a deep sense of their own unworthiness; that so approaching thy sanctuary with lowliness and devotion, and coming before thee with clean thoughts and pure hearts, with bodies undefiled, and minds sanctified, they may always perform a service acceptable to thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Regard, O Lord, the supplication of thy servants, that whosoever shall be dedicated to thee in this house by Baptism

may ever remain in the number of thy faithful children. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, that whosoever shall receive in this place the blessed Sacrament of the body and blood of Christ may come to that holy Ordinance with faith, charity, and true repentance; and, being filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, may, to their great and endless comfort, obtain forgiveness of their sins, and all other benefits of his passion. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, that by thy Holy Word which shall be read and preached in this place, and by thy Holy Spirit grafting it inwardly in the heart, the hearers thereof may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and may have power and strength to perform the same. *Amen.*

Now, therefore, arise, O Lord, and come into this place of thy rest, thou and the ark of thy strength. Let thine eye be open toward this house day and night; and let thine ears be ready toward the prayers of thy children, which they shall make unto thee in this place. And whensoever thy servants shall make to thee their petitions here, do thou hear them from heaven, thy dwelling place, the throne of the glory of thy kingdom; and when thou hearest, forgive. Grant, O Lord, we beseech thee, that here and elsewhere thy ministers may be clothed with righteousness, and thy saints rejoice in thy salvation. And may we all, with thy people everywhere, grow up into a holy temple in the Lord, and be at last received into the glorious temple above; the house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. And to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be glory and praise, world without end. *Amen.*

The service shall conclude with a Doxology and Benediction.

ARTICLES OF RELIGION OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

I. *Of Faith in the Holy Trinity*

¶ 1. There is but one living and true God, everlasting, without body or parts, of infinite power, wisdom, and goodness; the maker and preserver of all things, visible and invisible. And in unity of this Godhead there are three persons, of one substance, power, and eternity—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

II. *Of the Word, or Son of God, who was made very Man*

¶ 2. The Son, who was the Word of the Father, the very and eternal God, of one substance with the Father, took man's nature in the womb of the blessed Virgin; so that two whole and perfect natures, that is to say, the Godhead and Manhood, were joined together in one person, never to be divided; whereof is one Christ, very God and very Man, who truly suffered, was crucified, dead, and buried, to reconcile his Father to us, and to be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for the actual sins of men.

III. *Of the Resurrection of Christ*

¶ 3. Christ did truly rise again from the dead, and took again his body, with all things appertaining to the perfection of man's nature, wherewith he ascended into heaven, and there sitteth until he return to judge all men at the last day.

IV. *Of the Holy Ghost*

¶ 4. The Holy Ghost, proceeding from the Father and the Son, is of one substance, majesty, and glory with the Father and the Son, very and eternal God.

V. *The Sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures for Salvation*

¶ 5. The Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary to salvation; so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man that it should be believed as an article of faith, or be thought

requisite or necessary to salvation. In the name of the Holy Scriptures we do understand those canonical books of the Old and New Testament of whose authority was never any doubt in the Church. The names of the canonical books are:

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, The First Book of Samuel, The Second Book of Samuel, The First Book of Kings, The Second Book of Kings, The First Book of Chronicles, The Second Book of Chronicles, The Book of Ezra, The Book of Nehemiah, The Book of Esther, The Book of Job, The Psalms, The Proverbs, Ecclesiastes or the Preacher, Cantica or Song of Solomon, Four Prophets the Greater, Twelve Prophets the Less.

All the books of the New Testament as they are commonly received, we do receive and account canonical.

VI. *Of the Old Testament*

¶ 6. The Old Testament is not contrary to the New; for both in the Old and New Testament everlasting life is offered to mankind by Christ, who is the only Mediator between God and man, being both God and Man. Wherefore they are not to be heard who feign that the old fathers did look only for transitory promises. Although the law given from God by Moses as touching ceremonies and rites doth not bind Christians, nor ought the civil precepts thereof of necessity be received in any commonwealth; yet, notwithstanding, no Christian whatsoever is free from the obedience of the commandments which are called moral.

VII. *Of Original or Birth Sin*

¶ 7. Original sin standeth not in the following of Adam (as the Pelagians do vainly talk), but it is the corruption of the nature of every man, that naturally is engendered of the offspring of Adam, whereby man is very far gone from original righteousness, and of his own nature inclined to evil, and that continually.

VIII. *Of Free Will*

¶ 8. The condition of man after the fall of Adam is such that he cannot turn and prepare himself, by his own natural strength and works, to faith, and calling upon God; wherefore we have no power to do good works, pleasant and acceptable to God, without the grace of God by Christ preventing us, that we may have a good will, and working with us, when we have that good will.

IX. *Of the Justification of Man*

¶ 9. We are accounted righteous before God only for the merit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, by faith, and not for our own works or deservings. Wherefore, that we are justified by faith only is a most wholesome doctrine, and very full of comfort.

X. *Of Good Works*

¶ 10. Although good works, which are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification, cannot put away our sins, and endure the severity of God's judgments; yet are they pleasing and acceptable to God in Christ, and spring out of a true and lively faith, insomuch that by them a lively faith may be as evidently known as a tree is discerned by its fruit.

XI. *Of Works of Supererogation*

¶ 11. Voluntary works—besides, over, and above God's commandments—which are called works of supererogation, cannot be taught without arrogancy and impiety. For by them men do declare that they do not only render unto God as much as they are bound to do, but that they do more for his sake than of bounden duty is required: whereas Christ saith plainly: When ye have done all that is commanded of you, say, We are unprofitable servants.

XII. *Of Sin after Justification*

¶ 12. Not every sin willingly committed after justification is the sin against the Holy Ghost, and unpardonable. Wherefore, the grant of repentance is not to be denied to such as fall into sin after justification: after we have received the Holy Ghost, we may depart from grace given, and fall into sin, and, by the grace of God, rise again and amend our lives. And therefore they are to be condemned who say they can no more sin as long as they live here; or deny the place of forgiveness to such as truly repent.

XIII. *Of the Church*

¶ 13. The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men in which the pure Word of God is preached, and the Sacraments duly administered according to Christ's ordinance, in all those things that of necessity are requisite to the same.

XIV. *Of Purgatory*

¶ 14. The Romish doctrine concerning purgatory, pardon,

worshiping and adoration, as well of images as of relics, and also invocation of saints, is a fond thing, vainly invented, and grounded upon no warrant of Scripture, but repugnant to the Word of God.

XV. *Of Speaking in the Congregation in such a Tongue as the People Understand*

¶ 15. It is a thing plainly repugnant to the Word of God, and the custom of the primitive Church, to have public prayer in the Church, or to administer the Sacraments, in a tongue not understood by the people.

XVI. *Of the Sacraments*

¶ 16. Sacraments ordained of Christ are not only badges or tokens of Christian men's profession, but rather they are certain signs of grace, and God's good will toward us, by the which he doth work invisibly in us, and doth not only quicken, but also strengthen and confirm, our faith in him.

There are two Sacraments ordained of Christ our Lord in the Gospel; that is to say, Baptism and the Supper of the Lord.

Those five commonly called Sacraments, that is to say, confirmation, penance, orders, matrimony, and extreme unction, are not to be counted for Sacraments of the Gospel; being such as have partly grown out of the corrupt following of the Apostles, and partly are states of life allowed in the Scriptures, but yet have not the like nature of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, because they have not any visible sign or ceremony ordained of God.

The Sacraments were not ordained of Christ to be gazed upon, or to be carried about; but that we should duly use them. And in such only as worthily receive the same they have a wholesome effect or operation: but they that receive them unworthily, purchase to themselves condemnation, as Saint Paul saith, 1 Cor. 11. 29.

XVII. *Of Baptism*

¶ 17. Baptism is not only a sign of profession and mark of difference whereby Christians are distinguished from others that are not baptized; but it is also a sign of regeneration or the new birth. The baptism of young children is to be retained in the Church.

XVIII. *Of the Lord's Supper*

¶ 18. The Supper of the Lord is not only a sign of the

love that Christians ought to have among themselves one to another, but rather is a Sacrament of our redemption by Christ's death; insomuch that, to such as rightly, worthily, and with faith receive the same, the bread which we break is a partaking of the body of Christ; and likewise the cup of blessing is a partaking of the blood of Christ.

Transubstantiation, or the change of the substance of bread and wine in the Supper of our Lord, cannot be proved by Holy Writ, but is repugnant to the plain words of Scripture, overthroweth the nature of a Sacrament, and hath given occasion to many superstitions.

The body of Christ is given, taken, and eaten in the Supper, only after a heavenly and spiritual manner. And the means whereby the body of Christ is received and eaten in the Supper is faith.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was not by Christ's ordinance reserved, carried about, lifted up, or worshiped.

XIX. *Of both Kinds*

¶ 19. The Cup of the Lord is not to be denied to the Lay People; for both the parts of the Lord's Supper, by Christ's ordinance and commandment, ought to be administered to all Christians alike.

XX. *Of the one oblation of Christ, finished upon the Cross*

¶ 20. The offering of Christ, once made, is that perfect redemption, propitiation, and satisfaction for all the sins of the whole world, both original and actual; and there is none other satisfaction for sin but that alone. Wherefore the sacrifice of masses, in the which it is commonly said that the priest doth offer Christ for the quick and the dead, to have remission of pain or guilt, is a blasphemous fable and dangerous deceit.

XXI. *Of the Marriage of Ministers*

¶ 21. The Ministers of Christ are not commanded by God's law either to vow the estate of single life, or to abstain from marriage; therefore it is lawful for them, as for all other Christians, to marry at their own discretion, as they shall judge the same to serve best to godliness.

XXII. *Of the Rites and Ceremonies of Churches*

¶ 22. It is not necessary that rites and ceremonies should in all places be the same, or exactly alike; for they have been always different, and may be changed according to

the diversity of countries, times, and men's manners, so that nothing be ordained against God's Word. Whosoever, through his private judgment, willingly and purposely doth openly break the rites and ceremonies of the Church to which he belongs, which are not repugnant to the Word of God, and are ordained and approved by common authority, ought to be rebuked openly (that others may fear to do the like), as one that offendeth against the common order of he Church, and woundeth the consciences of weak brethren.

Every particular Church may ordain, change, or abolish rites and ceremonies, so that all things may be done to edification.

XXIII. *Of the Rulers of the United States of America*

¶ 23. The President, the Congress, the General Assemblies, the Governors, and Councils of State as the Delegates of the People, are the Rulers of the United States of America, according to the division of power made to them by the Constitution of the United States, and by the Constitutions of their respective States. And the said States are a sovereign and independent Nation, and ought not to be subject to any foreign jurisdiction.[1]

XXIV. *Of Christian Men's Goods*

¶ 24. The riches and goods of Christians are not common, as touching the right, title, and possession of the same, as some do falsely boast. Notwithstanding, every man ought, of such things as he possesseth, liberally to give alms to the poor, according to his ability.

XXV. *Of a Christian Man's Oath*

¶ 25. As we confess that vain and rash swearing is forbidden Christian men by our Lord Jesus Christ and James his Apostle; so we judge that the Christian religion doth not prohibit, but that a man may swear when the magistrate requireth, in a cause of faith and charity, so it be done according to the Prophet's teaching, in justice, judgment, and truth.

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[1] As far as it respects civil affairs we believe it the duty of Christians, and especially of all Christian Ministers, to be subject to the supreme authority of the country where they may reside, and to use all laudable means to enjoin obedience to the powers that be; and therefore it is expected that all our Preachers and People, who may be under the British or any other Government, will behave themselves as peaceable and orderly subjects.

THE GENERAL RULES

The Nature, Design, and General Rules of our United Societies

¶ 26. In the latter end of the year 1739 eight or ten persons who appeared to be deeply convicted of sin, and earnestly groaning for redemption, came to Mr. Wesley in London. They desired, as did two or three more the next day, that he would spend some time with them in prayer, and advise them how to flee from the wrath to come, which they saw continually hanging over their heads. That he might have more time for this great work, he appointed a day when they might all come together; which from thenceforward they did every week, namely, on Thursday, in the evening. To these, and as many more as desired to join with them (for their number increased daily), he gave those advices from time to time which he judged most needful for them; and they always concluded their meeting with prayer suited to their several necessities.

¶ 27. This was the rise of the United Society, first in Europe, and then in America. Such a society is no other than "a company of men having the form and seeking the power of godliness, united in order to pray together, to receive the word of exhortation, and to watch over one another in love, that they may help each other to work out their salvation."

¶ 28. That it may the more easily be discerned whether they are indeed working out their own salvation, each Society is divided into smaller companies, called Classes, according to their respective places of abode. There are about twelve persons in a Class, one of whom is styled The Leader. It is his duty,

§ 1. To see each person in his Class once a week at least; in order, (1.) To inquire how his soul prospers. (2.) To advise, reprove, comfort, or exhort, as occasion may require. (3.) To receive what he is willing to give toward the relief of the Preachers, Church and poor.

§ 2. To meet the Ministers and the Stewards of the Society once a week; in order, (1.) To inform the Minister of any that are sick, or of any that walk disorderly and will not be reproved. (2.) To pay the Stewards what he has received of his Class in the week preceding.

¶ 29. There is only one condition previously required of those who desire admission into these Societies—"a desire to flee from the wrath to come, and to be saved from their sins." But wherever this is really fixed in the soul it will be shown by its fruits.

¶ 30. It is therefore expected of all who continue therein that they shall continue to evidence their desire of salvation,

First: By doing no harm, by avoiding evil of every kind, especially that which is most generally practiced; such as,

The taking of the name of God in vain.

The profaning the day of the Lord, either by doing ordinary work therein or by buying or selling.

Drunkenness, buying or selling spirituous liquors, or drinking them, unless in cases of extreme necessity.

Slaveholding; buying or selling slaves.

Fighting, quarreling, brawling, brother going to law with brother; returning evil for evil, or railing for railing; the using of many words in buying or selling.

The buying or selling goods that have not paid the duty.

The giving or taking of things on usury—that is, unlawful interest.

Uncharitable or unprofitable conversation; particularly speaking evil of Magistrates or of Ministers.

Doing to others as we would not they should do unto us.

Doing what we know is not for the glory of God, as:

The putting on of gold and costly apparel.

The taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus.

The singing those songs, or reading those books, which do not tend to the knowledge or love of God.

Softness and needless self-indulgence.

Laying up treasure upon earth.

Borrowing without a probability of paying; or taking up goods without a probability of paying for them.

¶ 31. It is expected of all who continue in these Societies that they shall continue to evidence their desire of salvation.

Second: By doing good; by being in every kind merciful after their power; as they have opportunity, doing good of every possible sort, and, as far as possible, to all men:

To their bodies, of the ability which God giveth, by giving food to the hungry, by clothing the naked, by visiting or helping them that are sick or in prison:

To their souls, by instructing, reproving, or exhorting all we have any intercourse with; trampling under foot that enthusiastic doctrine, that "we are not to do good unless our hearts be free to it."

By doing good, especially to them that are of the house-

hold of faith or groaning so to be; employing them preferably to others; buying one of another; helping each other in business; and so much the more because the world will love its own and them only.

By all possible diligence and frugality, that the Gospel be not blamed.

By running with patience the race which is set before them, denying themselves, and taking up their cross daily; submitting to bear the reproach of Christ, to be as the filth and offscouring of the world; and looking that men should say all manner of evil of them falsely, for the Lord's sake.

¶ 32. It is expected of all who desire to continue in these Societies that they shall continue to evidence their desire of salvation,

Third: By attending upon all the ordinances of God; such are,

The Public Worship of God.

The Ministry of the Word, either read or expounded.

The Supper of the Lord.

Family and private Prayer.

Searching the Scriptures.

Fasting or Abstinence.

¶ 33. These are the General Rules of our Societies; all which we are taught of God to observe, even in his written Word, which is the only rule, and the sufficient rule, both of our faith and practice. And all these we know his Spirit writes on truly awakened hearts. If there be any among us who observes them not, who habitually breaks any of them, let it be known unto them who watch over that soul as they who must give an account. We will admonish him of the error of his ways. We will bear with him for a season. But if then he repent not, he hath no more place among us. We have delivered our own souls.

SPECIAL ADVICES

Divorce

No divorce, except for adultery, shall be regarded by the Church as lawful; and no Minister shall solemnize marriage in any case where there is a divorced wife or husband living; but this rule shall not be applied to the innocent party to a divorce for the cause of adultery, nor to divorced parties seeking to be reunited in marriage. ¶ 68 of the Discipline.[1]

Amusements

Improper amusements and excessive indulgence in innocent amusements are serious barriers to the beginning of the religious life and fruitful causes of spiritual decline. Some amusements in common use are positively demoralizing and furnish the first easy steps to the total loss of character. We therefore look with deep concern on the great increase of amusements and on the general prevalence of harmful amusements, and lift up a solemn note of warning and entreaty, particularly against theater-going, dancing, and such games of chance as are frequently associated with gambling; all of which have been found to be antagonistic to vital piety, promotive of worldliness, and especially pernicious to youth. We affectionately admonish all our people to make their amusements the subject of careful thought and frequent prayer, to study the subject of amusements in the light of their tendencies, and to be scrupulously careful in this matter to set no injurious example. We adjure them to remember that often the question for a Christian must be, not whether a certain course of action is positively immoral, but whether it will dull the spiritual life and be an unwise example. We direct all our Bishops, District Superintendents, and Pastors to call attention to this subject with solemn urgency in our Annual and Quarterly Conferences and in all our pulpits; and our Editors, Sunday School Officers, Epworth League Officers, and Class Leaders, to aid in abating the evils we deplore. We deem it our bounden duty to summon the whole Church to apply a thoughtful and instructed conscience to the

[1] The provisions of this paragraph are not merely advisory, but obligatory, see ¶ 264, § 1.

choice of amusements, and not to leave them to accident, or taste, or passion; and we affectionately advise and beseech every member of the Church absolutely to avoid "the taking such diversions as cannot be used in the name of the Lord Jesus." ¶ 69 of the Discipline.

Temperance

§ 1. Temperance, in its broader meaning, is distinctively a Christian virtue, enjoined in the Holy Scriptures. It requires the subordination of all the emotions, passions, and appetites to the control of reason and conscience. Dietetically, it means a wise use of suitable articles of food and drink, with entire abstinence from such as are known to be hurtful. Both science and human experience agree with the Holy Scriptures in condemning all alcoholic beverages as being neither useful nor safe. The business of manufacturing and of vending such liquors is also against the principles of morality, political economy, and the public welfare. We therefore regard voluntary total abstinence from all intoxicants as the obligation of the citizen and the complete legal prohibition of the traffic in alcoholic drinks as the duty of civil government. We heartily approve all lawful and Christian efforts to save society from the manifold and grievous evils resulting from intemperance, and earnestly advise our people to cooperate with all measures which may seem to them wisely adapted to secure that end. We refer to our General Rule on this subject (¶ 30), and affectionately urge its strict observance by all our members. Finally, we are fully persuaded that, under God, hope for the ultimate success of the Temperance Reform rests chiefly upon the combined and sanctified influence of the Family, the Church, and the State.

§ 2. We record our solemn judgment that the habitual use of tobacco is a practice out of harmony with the best Christian life. In the interest of a larger Christian influence and service we urge our members to abstain from the use of cigarettes and of tobacco in all other forms. ¶ 70 of the Discipline.

Christian Stewardship

§ 1. The following principles should be recognized by the individual Christian who would relate himself intelligently to property, income, wages and wealth:

(1) God is the owner of all things.

(2) God invites men to subdue the earth and possess it.

(3) Under grace, man is a steward to hold and administer his possessions as a sacred trust.

(4) God's ownership ought to be acknowledged.

(5) Biblical history records, and extra-biblical history recognizes the setting apart of the tenth of the income as that acknowledgment; there is indicated a divine sanction for the practice and the amount.

(6) God's ownership and man's stewardship are best evidenced by the systematic application of this portion of income to the advancement of the Kingdom, and by the faithful use of the balance of income not set aside.

§ 2. The following methods should be pursued by the individual Christian who would administer wisely his stewardship of material possessions:

(1) Actual or constructive separation of the proportion of income which complies with the foregoing principles.

(2) A written pledge in advance for the regular work of the Church (local budget and benevolence budget).

(3) A weekly payment of the amounts subscribed; offered as an act of worship at a public service if this is possible; otherwise held until offering may be made.

(4) Payments from time tc time, out of the portion set aside but not previously pledged, to special causes.

(5) Careful, intelligent, personal, and prayerful consideration of the uses to be made of the whole of income and wealth; this will require study of the local, national, and world-wide program of the Church, and of the full stewardship of life itself.

(6) Freewill offerings, thank-offerings, and gifts. ¶ 71 of the Discipline.

THE JUNIOR CATECHISM

I. GOD

1. *What is the first verse of the Bible?*

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.—Gen. 1. 1.

2. *Who is God?*

God is our Father in heaven, the Creator of all things, and the Giver of every good gift.

Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us?—Mal. 2. 10.

(Acts 4. 24; 1 Cor. 8. 6; James 1. 17; Eccl. 12. 1.)

3. *Where is God?*

God is everywhere.

Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD.—Jer. 23. 24.

(Psa. 139. 7-10.)

4. *What does God know?*

God knows all things, even the thoughts of our hearts.

Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off.—Psa. 139. 2.

(Prov. 15. 3; Ezek. 11. 5; John 21. 17.)

5. *What can God do?*

God can do whatever he wills to do.

Jer. 32. 27.

(Matt. 22. 29; Rom. 4. 21; Dan. 4. 35.)

6. *How long has God lived?*

God has lived always, and will live forever.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.—Psa. 90. 2.

(Isa. 44. 6; Rev. 1. 8.)

7. *Is God good?*
God is holy, just, and good.
Exod. 34. 6.
(Psa. 145. 9, 17; Rev. 15. 3.)

8. *Does God love us?*
Yes; God loves everybody, for "God is love."
Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love.—Jer. 31. 3.
(Rom. 5: 8; John 17. 23; 1 John 4. 10.)

9. *Ought we to love God?*
Yes: we ought to love God, because he first loved us.
We love him, because he first loved us.—1 John 4. 19.
(Deut. 6. 5; Josh. 23. 11; 2 John 6.)

10. *Is there but one God?*
There is but one living and true God.
1 Kings 8. 60.
(2 Kings 19. 19; Isa. 42. 8; 1. Cor. 8. 5, 6.)

11. *How does God make himself known to us in the Bible?*
God makes himself known to us in the Bible as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.
But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things.—John 14. 26.
(2 Cor. 13. 14; Phil. 2. 6.)

12. *In what name are Christians baptized?*
Christians are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.—Matt. 28. 19.

II. MAN

13. *Who were our first parents?*
Adam and Eve were our first parents.
Gen. 3. 20.
(Acts 17. 26.)

14. Where did God place our first parents?
God placed them in the Garden of Eden.
(Gen. 2. 8.)

15. Were they created good?
They were created good; for God made them in his own image.
So God created man in his own image.—Gen. 1. 27.
(Gen. 1. 31; Eccl. 7. 29; Isa. 43. 7.)

16. What were they given to do?
They were to care for the garden, and to enjoy its fruits.
(Gen. 2. 15, 16.)

17. What were they forbidden to do?
They were forbidden to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.
(Gen. 2. 17.)

18. Did they obey God?
No; they sinned against God by eating the forbidden fruit.
(Gen. 3. 6.)

19. What is sin?
Sin is any act, word, or purpose in which we disobey God, or any failure to keep his law of love.
Sin is the transgression of the law.—1 John 3. 4.
(Rom. 13. 10; James 4. 17.)

20. What evil did sin bring upon our first parents?
They lost the favor of God, were driven out of Eden, and became subject to pain and death.
(Gen. 3. 24.)

21. What evil did their fall bring upon all men?
By their fall sin entered into the world, and death by sin.

By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin.—Rom. 5. 12.

(Rom. 5. 18; 6. 23; 1 Cor. 15. 22.)

III. JESUS CHRIST

22. *What did God do to save fallen man?*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John 3. 16.

23. *What did the Son of God do to save sinners?*

To save sinners Jesus Christ, the Son of God, became man, lived, suffered, died, and rose again from the dead.

(John 1. 14; 1 Cor. 15. 3, 4; Gal. 4. 4.)

24. *How did he become man?*

The Son of God became man by taking upon him a human body and soul, being born of the Virgin Mary. Rom. 1. 3.

(Heb. 2. 14; Phil. 2. 7; 1 Tim. 3. 16.)

25. *Where was he born?*

He was born in Bethlehem of Judea.

(Mic. 5. 2; Matt. 2. 1; Luke 2. 11.)

26. *Who first told the good news of his birth?*

The angel of the Lord told shepherds the good news of his birth.

(Luke 2. 8-12.)

27. *What did the shepherds do?*

They went quickly to Bethlehem, and found the babe lying in a manger.

(Luke 2. 15, 16.)

28. *Did others come to see the young child?*
Wise men from the East came and worshiped him, bringing gifts of gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.
(Matt. 2. 1, 2, 11.)

29. *Where was the Child first taken?*
He was first taken to the temple in Jerusalem, and was there presented to God.
(Luke 2. 22.)

30. *What name was given to him?*
They "called his name JESUS."—Matt. 1. 25.

31. *Why was this name chosen?*
Because God had said: "Thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins." —Matt. 1. 21.

32. *What does the name Jesus mean?*
The name Jesus means Saviour.

33. *By what other name was he called?*
The angel that spoke to the shepherds called him, "Christ, the Lord."—Luke 2. 11.

34. *What does the name Christ mean?*
The name Christ means "The Anointed One."
(Luke 4. 18; Acts 10. 38.)

35. *On what day do we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ?*
We celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ on Christmas-day.

36. *Who sought to kill the young child Jesus?*
King Herod sought to kill him, but he was taken to Egypt for safety.
(Matt. 2. 13, 14.)

37. *Where did Jesus live after Herod's death?*
After Herod's death he was brought back from Egypt, and lived in Nazareth.
(Matt. 2. 23; Luke 2. 39.)

38. *Where was he taken when twelve years old?*
When twelve years old he was taken to the feast at Jerusalem.
(Luke 2. 42.)

39. *When his parents missed him on their way home, where did they find him?*
They turned back to Jerusalem, and found him in the temple with the teachers asking and answering questions.
(Luke 2. 43-47.)

40. *What is told about the youth of Jesus at Nazareth?*
Jesus was subject unto his parents, and grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men.
(Luke 2. 40, 51, 52.)

41. *When did Jesus begin his ministry?*
He began his ministry when he was about thirty years old.
(Luke 3. 23.)

42. *How did Jesus begin his ministry?*
He went to John the Baptist at the river Jordan, and was baptized by him.
(Matt. 3. 13; Luke 3. 21.)

43. *What took place when Jesus was baptized?*
The Holy Ghost came upon him like a dove, and a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son." —Matt. 3. 16, 17.

44. *What did John the Baptist say of Jesus?*
John the Baptist said, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."—John 1. 29.

45. *What did Jesus do after his baptism?*
He went into the wilderness and fasted forty days and forty nights.

(Matt. 4. 1, 2.)

46. *What else took place in the wilderness?*
Jesus was tempted by the devil.

(Matt. 4. 3-11.)

47. *How did he overcome the tempter?*
Jesus overcame the tempter by the word of God.

(Luke 4. 4, 8, 12.)

48. *What did Jesus do after the temptation?*
He began preaching the gospel of the Kingdom, in Galilee and Judea.

(Matt. 11. 4, 5.)

49. *What great works did Jesus do?*
He did many miracles; through him the blind received their sight, the lame walked, the lepers were cleansed, the deaf heard, and the dead were raised up.

(Matt. 11 : 4, 5.)

50. *What greater works did Jesus do?*
He forgave sinners; he cleansed the heart; he healed the broken-hearted; he delivered men from the power of sin and Satan, and made them the children of God.

(Matt. 9. 2; Luke 4. 18, 19.)

51. *What twelve men did Jesus choose and train as his apostles and helpers?*
Jesus chose as his apostles and helpers, "Simon, who

is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James the son of Alphæus, and Lebbæus, whose surname was Thaddæus; Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot."—Matt. 10. 2-4.

52. *What did Jesus say about little children?*

Jesus said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God."—Mark 10. 14.

53. *How did Jesus come to his death?*

He was betrayed by Judas Iscariot, was falsely accused before the high priest, "he suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried."—Apostles' Creed.)

(Matt. 16. 21; Luke 22. 48; John 19. 33.)

54. *Where was Jesus crucified?*

Jesus was crucified without the gate of Jerusalem, at a place called Calvary.

(Luke 23. 33.)

55. *Why was Jesus crucified?*

Jesus willingly laid down his life for the sins of the world.

I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. . . . I lay down my life for the sheep.—John 10. 11, 15.

(John 10. 17, 18; Luke 22. 42.)

56. *Who buried the body of Jesus?*

Joseph of Arimathea, and Nicodemus, rulers among the Jews, buried it in a new tomb.

(John 19. 38-42.)

57. *When did Jesus rise from the dead?*
On the third day Jesus rose from the dead.
(1 Cor. 15. 4.)

58. *By what power did Jesus rise from the dead?*
Jesus rose from the dead by the power of God, through which he did his other mighty works.
God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power.—1 Cor. 6. 14.
(Acts 2. 32; Acts 10. 40; Heb. 13. 20.)

59. *What does the resurrection of Jesus prove to us?*
The resurrection of Jesus proves to us that he is the Son of God, and that we also shall rise from the dead.
Declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.—Rom. 1. 4.
Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus.—2 Cor. 4. 14.
(1 Pet. 1. 3.)

60. *On what day of the week did Jesus rise from the dead?*
Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week, now called Sunday, or the Lord's day.
(Matt. 28. 1.)

61. *What day each year is kept in memory of the resurrection of Jesus?*
Easter-day is kept in memory of the resurrection of Jesus.

62. *How long did Jesus remain on the earth after his resurrection?*
Jesus was seen by his disciples for forty days after his resurrection, and then he ascended into heaven.
He shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days.—Acts 1. 3.

63. What was the last command that Jesus gave to his disciples?

Jesus said, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations."—Matt. 28. 18, 19.

64. What was the last promise of Jesus?

The last promise of Jesus was, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."—Matt. 28. 20.

65. What was the last act of Jesus?

Jesus led his disciples to Bethany, lifted up his hands, and "while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven."—Luke 24. 51.

66. Does Jesus still live and reign?

Jesus reigns at the right hand of God, and ever lives to make intercession for us.

Who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.—Rom. 8. 34.

67. Will Jesus our Lord come to earth again?

Jesus will come again to raise the dead, and to judge the world.

For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.—Matt. 16. 27.

(Matt. 24. 42; 2 Tim. 4. 1.)

68. What will our Lord Jesus Christ say to the good at the judgment?

Our Lord will say to them, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."—Matt. 25. 34.

69. What will our Lord say to the wicked?

He will say to them, "Depart from me, ye cursed,

into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."—Matt. 25. 41.

70. *What great truths concerning Jesus Christ as the Saviour of men are plainly taught in the Scriptures?*

That all men need salvation; that Jesus Christ has provided salvation for all men; that this salvation is the gift of God through faith in Jesus; that those who are saved may know the fact; that it is the privilege of God's children to be cleansed from all sin; and that all who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and obey Him to the end shall be saved in heaven.

IV. THE HOLY GHOST

71. *Who is the Holy Ghost?*

The Holy Ghost is the Spirit of God, the divine Helper whom Jesus promised his disciples before he left the world.

But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me.—John 15. 26.

72. *When was this promise fulfilled?*

On the Day of Pentecost.

(Acts 2. 1-4.)

73. *What is the first work of the Holy Spirit in our hearts?*

He first shows us our sins, and our need of a Saviour. John 16. 8.

74. *What will the Holy Spirit do for us if we turn from our sins and seek the Saviour?*

He will lead us to the Saviour and give us a new heart.

The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.—Rom. 5. 5.

75. *What then will the Holy Spirit do for us?*

He will assure us that we are the children of God; he will comfort us in trouble; and he will help us to lead a holy life.

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.—Rom. 8. 16.

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities.—Rom. 8. 26.

V. THE MEANS OF GRACE

76. *What means are used by the Holy Spirit to aid us in living a Christian life?*

He uses the word of God and prayer, the Church of Christ, and the sacraments.

77. *What is the word of God?*

The Holy Bible is the word of God.

When ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God.—1 Thess. 2. 13.

78. *How was the Holy Bible given to us?*

The Holy Bible was written by men inspired of God.

For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.—2 Pet. 1. 21.

79. *For what purpose has God given us the Bible?*

The Bible was given to make known God and his will; and to be our rule of faith and duty.

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.—2 Tim. 3. 16.

80. *What is prayer?*

Prayer is offering the desire of our hearts to our Heavenly Father according to his will.

81. In what way should we pray?

We should pray with sorrow for our sins, with thanksgiving for God's goodness, and with faith in his promises.

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.—Psa. 66. 18.

(Isa. 59. 1, 2; Phil. 4. 6; Col. 4. 2.)

82. For whom should we pray?

For everybody, even for our enemies.

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men.—1 Tim. 2. 1.

83. In whose name should we pray?

In the name of Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it.—John 14. 14.

84. Who compose the Church of Christ?

The Church of Christ is composed of all the children of God on earth and in heaven.

So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.—Rom. 12. 5.

(Acts 10. 35; Rom. 12. 5; 1 Cor. 12. 4-6; Eph. 4. 3-6.)

85. By what other name is the Church of Christ called?

In the Apostles' Creed the Church of Christ is called "the holy catholic Church."

86. What is the work of the Church?

The work of the Church is to witness for Christ, and to carry on his work in saving the world.

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.—Matt. 28. 19.

(Acts 1. 8; 13. 47; Isa. 49. 6.)

87. What is a sacrament?

A sacrament is an outward sign, appointed by Christ, of an inward grace.

(Rom. 4. 11.)

88. How many sacraments are there?

There are two sacraments: Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

89. What is the outward sign in Baptism?

The outward sign in Baptism is water applied in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

(Acts 8. 36; 10. 47.)

90. What is the inward grace signified by Baptism?

The inward grace is the cleansing of the heart by the Holy Spirit.

As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.—Gal. 3. 27.

91. Who should be baptized?

Little children should be baptized, and all who accept Jesus as their Saviour.

For the promise is unto you, and to your children.—Acts 2. 39.

Acts 8. 36, 37.

92. Why should little children be baptized?

Little children should be baptized because they belong to Christ, and are members of his kingdom.

But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for such is the kingdom of heaven.—Matt. 19. 14.

93. What is the outward sign in the Lord's Supper?

The outward sign in the Lord's Supper is bread and wine used in memory of the death of Christ.

94. *What is the inward grace signified by the Lord's Supper?*

The inward grace is our union with Christ by faith, whereby we receive strength from him for the duties and trials of life.

John 6. 56.

95. *What is the further purpose of the Lord's Supper?*

To signify that all the disciples of Christ are one family in him, and to show his death till he come.

For we being many are one bread, and one body.—1 Cor. 10. 17. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.—1 Cor. 11. 26.

96. *Should all Christians unite in this Holy Communion?*

They should; for Jesus commands, "This do in remembrance of me."—Luke 22. 19.

VI. DUTIES TO GOD AND MAN

97. *What is the first commandment?*

"Thou shalt have no other gods before me."—Exod. 20. 3.

98. *What is the second commandment?*

"Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments."—Exod. 20. 4-6.

99. What is the third commandment?

"Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain."—Exod. 20. 7.

100. What is the fourth commandment?

"Remember the Sabbath-day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath-day, and hallowed it."—Exod. 20. 8-11.

101. What is the fifth commandment?

"Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."—Exod. 20. 12.

102. What is the sixth commandment?

"Thou shalt not kill."—Exod. 20. 13.

103. What is the seventh commandment?

"Thou shalt not commit adultery."—Exod. 20. 14.

104. What is the eighth commandment?

"Thou shalt not steal."—Exod. 20. 15.

105. What is the ninth commandment?

"Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor."—Exod. 20. 16.

106. What is the tenth commandment?

"Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou

shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's."—Exod. 20. 17.

107. What commandments of Christ include all these duties?

Jesus said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."—Matt. 22. 37-40.

108. What words of Jesus are called "The Golden Rule"?

"Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."—Matt. 7. 12.

VII. DIRECTIONS FOR THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

109. How may we begin the Christian life?

By listening to the voice of God, repenting of our sins, and trusting Jesus as our Saviour.

What must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. —Acts 16. 30, 31.

110. What is it to repent?

It is to be sorry for our sins, to forsake them all, and to turn to God.

Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him.—Isa. 55. 7.

111. What is it to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ?

It is to accept Jesus, and to trust Him as our Saviour.

As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.—John 1. 12.

(Rom. 10. 9.)

112. *Will God accept us if we trust in Jesus?*

He will; for he has promised to accept us, and his promise cannot fail.

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.—Rom. 10. 13.

(Matt. 11. 29.)

113. *What change takes place in us when God accepts us?*

God gives us a new heart, so that we love him, and gladly obey him.

A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you.—Ezek. 36. 26.

114. *Is it our duty to confess Christ?*

Yes; we are required to confess him.

Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.—Matt. 10. 32.

115. *How can we confess Christ?*

By uniting with his Church, and by witnessing for him in word and life.

(Matt. 5. 16; Rom. 10. 9, 10.)

116 *What vow do we take when we unite with the Church?*

We take the vow of repentance, faith, and obedience contained in the Baptismal Covenant.

117. *How may we continue in God's favor and grow in the likeness of Christ?*

By the study of God's word, by daily prayer, and by a life of service for Christ.

The life which I now live in the flesh I live by the

faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.—Gal. 2. 20.

118. What is the final reward of the Christian life?

"Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."—Rev. 2. 10.

BENEDICTIONS

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen.

—*Easter Liturgy, Book of Common Prayer, A. D. 1559.*

THE peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst us and remain with us always. Amen. —*Book of Common Prayer, A. D. 1549.*

THE God of Peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do his will, working in us that which is well pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE Lord of Peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways. Amen.

NOW unto Him that is able to keep us from falling, and to present us faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy; to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and for evermore. Amen.

UNTO God's gracious mercy and protection we commit ourselves. The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face to shine upon us and be gracious unto us. The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon us, and give us peace, both now and evermore. Amen. —*The Aaronic Blessing.*

MAY our Lord Jesus Christ be near us to defend us, within us to refresh us, around us to preserve us, before us to guide us, behind us to justify us, above us to bless us. Who liveth and reigneth with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God for evermore. Amen.

—*Tenth Century.*

Ascription

NOW unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father, to him be glory and dominion; forever and ever. Amen.

—*Saint John, A. D. 90.*

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